A VOCABULARY STUDY OF KERR COUNTY, TEXAS

THESIS

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By

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PREFACE

This investigation is based upon the living language of people who are residing in Kerr County at the present time, rather than upon former studies or treatises on the subject. Personal interviews were conducted in order to determine the prevalent usages of the area. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the following informants, who gave so generously of their time: Mr. Gus F. Schreiner, Mr. Warren A. Rees, Mr. Felix Real, Mr. John Leinweber, Mrs. D. Knox, Mr. Mack Henderson, Mrs. Alfred Ellebracht, and Miss Fayrene Dietert.

I am grateful to Dr. Rudolph Willard for serving on my thesis committee. It is to Dr. E. Bagby Atwood that I owe my greatest appreciation. His interesting presentation of regional vocabulary in his course English 364 K inspired me to want to undertake this type of study, and his kind and understanding direction and guidance have helped me to complete it.

My own family deserves a great deal of credit for this project also, for without their help and encouragement, I could not have undertaken the study. I am indeed grateful to my husband, my daughter, and my son.

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CHAPTER I

BACKGROUND OF KERR COUNTY

To the same extent that it would be impossible to understand the behavior of a person whose background we did not know, it would also be impossible to account for the vocabulary of any given locality without some attention to the nature of the area itself. Since the purpose of this treatise is to study the vocabulary of Kerr County, Texas, its origin and content, it will be necessary to familiarize ourselves with the geography, climate, and industries of the county, as well as with the history of the original settlements and with the cultural and social patterns which have developed within the area.

The geography of the county is the first feature which should be considered as a possible influence on its choice and development of vocabulary features. Kerr County is a parcel of land which was originally a part of Bexar County and which was made a separate county in 1856. It is situated in the Edwards Plateau area of Southwest Texas. The maximum altitude is 1,645 feet. "The land is hilly with a rugged surface, partly timbered.... Most of the soil is gray and sandy loam with some alluvials in the valleys and along the streams."[1] To give some idea of the productivity of the soil, there are approximately 698,957 acres in the county, of which only 24,131 are considered crop lands.

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[1] Texas Almanac, 1939-40, p. 431.

The main stream is the Guadalupe River, which is spring fed and in many places cuts a deep gorge or canyon, while in a few other places it spreads out and is the bed for alluvial soil. The river forks at the little town of Hunt, which is about twelve miles north of Kerrville. The river has numerous tributaries, some of the best known ones being Johnson Creek, Goat Creek, Town Creek, Turtle Creek, Verde Creek, and Quinlan Creek. Most of the timber of the county grows along these streams. The cypress, pecan, postoak, mesquite, and live oak grow profusely along their banks. In addition to the varieties of trees found along the streams, a small juniper, which is known locally as "cedar brakes," covers the hillsides and extends into the valleys. There is an estimated 4,750 acres in woodland in the county.

The altitude of the county probably accounts for the year-round mild climate. The mean temperature is about 65 degrees. The numerous camps and lodges up and down the streams are evidence of the delightful climate. The rainfall averages about 28.92 inches annually. Just as this mild climate was an inducement to the early settlers who could find the ultimate in protection from the elements with very little building cost, so today it is an inducement to those in search of health. A historian of the county observes, "It is dry most of the year, and consequently the climate is excellent for the cure of all forms of bronchial, asthmatic, and tubercular ailments. The county has become widely known as a health resort."[2] There are several pri-

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[2]Matilda Marie Real, "A History of Kerr County" (Master's thesis, University of Texas, 1942), p. 7.

vately owned and operated sanitariums for the treatment of tuberculosis, as well as the four-hundred-bed hospital maintained by the Veterans Administration for the treatment of tuberculosis among the ex-servicemen.

The industries of the county offer another clue as to the vocabulary to be expected. The first white settler of Kerr County was Joshua D. Brown, who had been a member of the Gonzales Colony. In order to secure needed raw materials for the shingle industry in which he was engaged, he made a scouting trip into the upper Guadalupe Valley in search of timber. Since the cypress trees attained great size along the river banks, Brown and nine other men decided to locate on the present site of Kerrville in order to continue the shingle-making industry. "The cypress trees growing along the first fifty miles of the Guadalupe River were probably the reason for the settlements on the upper Guadalupe of that early day."[3]

The most glamorous occupation which has thrived in the Hill Country in general is cattle and stock raising. "The region is devoted primarily to livestock raising. Probably eighty per cent of sheep and practically all angora goats of Texas are raised in the Edwards Plateau region. Kerrville is one of the principal concentration and shipping points of wool, mohair, and cattle."[4] The very name of Captain Charles Schreiner, one of the early entrepreneurs of the county, is

[3] J. J. Starkey, Pioneer History, Vol. I, No. 2, p. 1.

[4] Texas Almanac, 1939-40, pp. 40-41.

synonymous with trail drivers, and his brand is well known in the annals of Texas ranching. In fact, most of the pioneer families are either directly or indirectly interested in ranching. In addition to the older families, there is now a great influx of people from many parts of Texas and other states, who have made heavy investments in ranch property. Some of these new ranchers operate their ranches as a hobby, while others have undertaken their new role seriously.

Another element in the background of the county is the people themselves. We shall first consider the German families who immigrated to the hills of the Guadalupe River in the late 1840's and early 1850's. "One German group not long out of the old country settled at Comfort."[5] In the year 1854 Prince Carl Solms-Braunfels led in the establishment of another colony of Germans in New Braunfels. A year later many of these people moved on to Fredericksburg, a nearby community. A few years later began the immigration of native born Germans into what became Kerr County proper. In 1857 Christian Dietert and his wife, the former Rosalie Hess, who were German born, moved to Kerr County after having lived in New Braunfels, Comfort, and Fredericksburg. In 1859 Casper Real and Charles Schreiner came to Kerr County after a brief stay in San Antonio. Mr. Real was from Düsseldorf, Germany, and Mr. Schreiner was originally from Riguewihr, France. Henry Joseph Schwethelm also came from Germany by way of New Braunfels and Comfort. Other German-born settlers who came in the

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[5]Starkey, Pioneer History, Vol. I, No. 2, p. 1, February, 1933.

early days were Henrietta Eckstein, who later became Mrs. B. C. Richards, and Mary Balbino Hess. All of these old families have descendants in Kerr County today, and many of them are enrolled in the local school. Mr. Gus Schreiner, Mr. Felix Real, and Fayrene Dietert, three informants for this paper, are descendants of three of these old German families. The German element in the population probably accounts partially for the high standard of living which is maintained by most ranching families in this area. Thrift and resourcefulness are in evidence throughout the county.

Captain Joseph A. Tivy, a man whose name is now applied to the Kerrville High School and one elementary school, was born in Canada. "He came from Canada and settled in Karnes County, later moving to San Antonio. In about 1870 he came to Kerrville with his two sisters."[6] Another Canadian, but one who had been born in England, came to Kerr County in the earlier days. He was B. A. Davey, who was a close friend of Captain Tivy. A little later the Rev. Richard Galbraith, who was born in Ireland, came to Kerr County after first having settled in Uvalde County. These three families, though not direct from England, or apparently of pure English ancestry, no doubt gave an English influence to the vocabulary.

The next foreign group to be considered is the Spanish-Mexicans. "Among the early Kerr County cowboys who went up the trail were Jesús and Simon Ayalla. Jesús was the father of John and others of the Mex-

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[6]Franklin Junior High School Students, Kerr County, The History.

ican family of Ayallas who grew up in Kerrville. Others of the name still residing at and around Kerrville are descendants of Simon Ayalla."[7] The foregoing was written by Mr. J. J. Starkey in 1933, but to this day there are Ayallas, descendants of these trail drivers, who live in Kerrville. Another local Mexican family traces its ancestry to one of the bravest Indian scouts who ever lived in the pioneer days. He was José Policarpo Rodrigues, who was born in Caragoza, Mexico, in 1829. After a colorful career as Indian scout and true friend to the white settlers, he finished out his life as a Methodist missionary to his own people who lived in Bandera County on Privilege Creek. "Some of the best Mexican citizens of Kerrville came from this old Mexican settlement."[8] These people left their impact upon this locality in a more pronounced fashion than would be realized by casual observation. However, today the very trademark of the county is a pair of cowboy boots and a Stetson hat, and a simulate aristocracy is determined by ranch holdings. "It is noteworthy that the Latin culture in Texas has been more persistent in livestock industries than in any other branch of Texas economic life. It was the Spanish cow primarily that stimulated the early beef cattle industry. The present day fine Rambouillet sheep and Angora goat are bred up from stock that were originally introduced and widely distributed in South and Southwest Texas by Spaniards and Mexicans."[9] Thus we see that the Mexican, whose contribu-

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[7]Starkey, Pioneer History, IX, 3.

[8]Ibid., Vol. II, No. 9, p. 4.

[9]Texas Almanac, 1939-40, p. 200.

tion to American society is often taken too lightly, actually exerted considerable influence upon the foremost industry of this area.

Several sections of the United States have contributed citizens to this new land. Among them we find two groups representing the central United States--that area which was settled from the westward movement out of Pennsylvania to the South and West. Kurath terms this area the "Midland"; according to him it comprises the land bounded on the north by a line drawn from the coast of New Jersey through Pennsylvania almost directly west across the northern part of the state, and on the south by a line drawn from the coast of Delaware southwest to include the mountainous areas of Virginia and North Carolina. The Ozarks form the western boundary.[10] The largest group from this area was from Gonzales, an early Texas colony established by DeWitt in 1825, composed of citizens of Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and it is in them that we are chiefly interested. As has been previously noted, Joshua D. Brown was from the Gonzales Colony. It was here that he and James Kerr, the overseer of the DeWitt Colony, became staunch friends. Brown is the man who gave the land for the courthouse square in Kerrville; he is also the man whose original grant of land is now the reservation on which the Veterans Administration maintains a nationally known hospital, and he is the man who named the county in honor of his good friend, James Kerr. His descendants reside in the county today. Others who reached Kerr County from Tennessee by way of

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[10]Hans Kurath, A Word Geography of the Eastern United States (Ann Arbor, 1949), Fig. 3.

the Gonzales Colony are Alonzo Rees and the Goss brothers. One of the informants for this paper is a descendant of Mr. Rees. These people were more interested in farming than ranching, and much of the typical farm language of the Midland which is used here may be attributed to them.

The roster of old settlers in this county is well represented with other families that sprang from the Midland area. Such names as J. M. Starkey, "Uncle" Bill Wharton, Henry Hamilton, David C. Wharton, Dr. J. C. Nowlin, Neal Coldwell, the Hendersons, the Lawrences, and John Lafayette Nichols are only a few who came to Kerr County from Tennessee and Kentucky in the early days. One of the writer's informants is a descendant of the Hendersons. According to the available records, more of the pioneer families who are recorded came from this Midland area than from any other place. In fact, of the fourteen families known to have arrived between 1845 and 1860, 35.71 per cent were from Tennessee, 14.29 per cent were from Arkansas, and 14.29 per cent were from Missouri.[11]

Only four of the old families are listed as former residents of the Virginia-North Carolina territory. These are the Burneys, Williamsons, Leavells, and Steeles. Mississippi was the former home of three pioneer families, the Jarmons, Cains, Lawrences, and Thomas Watkins. Most of the Southern influence in the vocabulary has been introduced in recent years.

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[11]William Wilson White, "Sources of Migration into West Texas Counties to 1860" (Master's thesis, University of Texas, 1948), p. 20.

One population group which has never been very significant as to the language and culture of Kerr County is the Negro. Since this area was settled predominantly by Germans and people of the Midland area, both of which groups were opposed to slavery, and since the soil was not suitable for the production of cotton, the slave population was held to a minimum. "In 1860 there were 585 whites and 49 slaves, and by 1870 there were 952 whites and 90 negroes in the county."[12]

One of the most palpable and most admirable characteristics which the writer observed while recording interviews was the lack of many substandard forms of English which are evident in most rural areas of Texas. This fact may be because of these early settlers' desire for education. The first settler came in 1846 and the county was organized in 1856. Formal education followed closely. "In 1857, a young man came to Kerrville and opened a school. This was the first school ever taught in Kerrville or perhaps in Kerr County."[13] This thirst for knowledge seems to have pervaded the early settlers, for those who did not live near a school either sent their children away to school or hired tutors to live on the ranches with them in order to teach their children. Today many ranchers in the county maintain two homes: one on the ranch where they earn a livelihood and one in Kerrville where the children live during the school terms. One informant said that though he could not rightfully claim that he finished elementary

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[12]Real, "A History of Kerr County," p. 50.

[13]Franklin Junior High School Students, Kerr County, The History.

school, he had read the complete works of Shakespeare.

Thus we are ready to view the vocabulary of Kerr County. We find it is a dialect whose grammatical forms are characterized largely by standard English, particularly lacking in vulgarisms. The vocabulary itself, as we shall see, is from many sources--Europe, the older sections of the United States, Mexico, and the Southwest itself. It is a language that arose to meet the needs of a heterogeneous group, which had to adapt its mode of living to a frontier country and a new industry.

CHAPTER II

METHODOLOGY

In order for the reader to get more meaning from the glossary in this treatise, it will be necessary to present an explanation of the methods used in gathering the material and the codes used for the informants, as well as a brief history of each informant.

The informants were chosen on the basis of several requirements: length of residence of their families in the county, degree of education, whether they were of German or non-German background, and whether they engaged in ranching or not. The reasons back of these criteria are that in order to get the true vocabulary of the county, the original language spoken by the early settlers would be the most authentic and would be best preserved in these older families. Incidentally, six of the eight informants interviewed trace their ancestry back to the original fourteen families who were here in 1860. The other two informants, Mrs. Ellebracht and Mrs. Knox, represent that group of people whose families have moved to the county since the early days and who have lived in a different section of the county, namely, the Sunset and Mountain Home communities in the northwest portion.

It was also desired to sample the language of the various educational levels; hence the informants range from an ex-college professor of mathematics with an M. A. degree to a man who says he is not sure how far he went in school, but he probably dropped his education while in the elementary grades.

Since ranching is the foremost industry of the county and, without a doubt, the industry that gives the county individuality and character, it was thought significant to sample the vocabulary of both ranching and non-ranching families.

As has already been indicated in the introduction, 14 per cent of the original families were direct from Germany. In fact, the influence of these people has made a greater impact upon the development of the county than that proportion indicates. However, the greatest influence has not been made by their language, but by their leadership in social and business enterprises. They seem to have absorbed the speech and religious customs of the English settler, for they appear to be rather painstaking in their speech and most of them belong to the Episcopal Church rather than the Lutheran or Catholic, the churches to which most Germans belong. However, since there is evidence of some German influence upon the language, it was thought logical to choose the informants on the basis of their German or non-German background.

After the informants were selected and had agreed to help the writer, personal interviews were arranged. These meetings lasted from three to five hours, depending on the garrulousness of the informant. As a basis for gathering data, a set of seventeen work-sheets[x] were used. These called for terms relating to the weather, topography, the home, household goods, time and distance, the premises of farm and ranch, animals, crops, foods, the family, social life, persons; that is, personal characteristics and activities (emphasizing verb forms

[x]A complete copy of the work sheets may be found in the Appendix.

and syntactical peculiarities). These work sheets were much the same as those used in other areas of the country where data are gathered for word atlases.[1] In fact, the actual words covered do not vary appreciably from those discussed by Kurath in Chapter III of A Word Geography of the Eastern United States.[2] The interviews were kept as informal as possible. Many times the informant's entire family chimed in to give answers, but the writer always indicated the answers made by anyone other than the designated informants. The questions were worded in such a way as to avoid using the expression which was wanted in the answer. An effort was made to describe the object or activity. For instance, the question was asked: "What do you call the small vehicle that a baby is rolled in?" The answer in every case was "a baby buggy." The answer of the informant was then recorded under the definition of the object on the work sheet.

After the interviews were completed and the words recorded on the work sheets, a study was made of the words given by the informants with reference to their origin and their distribution in other varieties of English. The following sources were used in the study (each one is accompanied by the symbol by which it is represented in the glossary): Dictionary of American English (DAE);[3] A German-English

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[1]For example, A. L. Davis used a similar list in the preparation of his dissertation, A Word Atlas of the Great Lakes Area (University of Michigan, 1948).

[2]Op. cit.

[3]Sir William A. Craigie and James R. Hulbert, A Dictionary of American English on Historical Principles (Chicago, 1938).

Dictionary (Hebert and Hirsch);[4] A Word Geography of the Eastern United States (Kurath);[5] The New English (or Oxford) Dictionary (NED);[6] New English-Spanish Dictionary (Cuyas);[7] Diccionario Etimologico de la Lengua Española (Barcia);[8] Webster's New International Dictionary (WD);[9] and Wentworth's American Dialect Dictionary (ADD).[10]

In order to avoid having to write the informants' names under each word that each person gave, codes were devised to stand for the names. They are based upon the informants' names; their occupation--whether ranching or non-ranching; their origin--whether German or non-German; and their relative ages. For instance, SGR1 means Schreiner, German, rancher, and the oldest one in that particular group. Likewise, DGNR2 meant Dietert, German, non-rancher, and the second from the standpoint of age in the non-ranching group.

Believing that a brief characterization of each informant will give insight into this study, I shall devote the following paragraphs

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[4] F. C. Hebert and L. Hirsch, A New German-English Dictionary (New York, n.d.).

[5] Op. cit.

[6] James A. H. Murray and others, A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles (Oxford, 1888-1928; Supplement, 1933).

[7] Arturo Cuyas, Appleton's New English-Spanish and Spanish-English Dictionary (D. Appleton-Century Co.).

[8] D. Roque Barcia, Primer Diccionario General Etimologico de la Lengua Española (F. Seix, Editor; Barcelona).

[9] Webster's New International Dictionary, 2nd ed. (Springfield, Mass., 1946).

[10] Harold Wentworth, American Dialect Dictionary (New York, 1944).

to such information. The informants will be arranged according to age, beginning with the oldest.

Gus F. Schreiner, age eighty-four, the son of Captain Charles Schreiner, is the oldest informant. As noted in the introduction, Captain Schreiner came in 1857 to Kerr County, where he prospered and established himself as a successful merchant, banker, and cattleman. When the family property interests were divided, Mr. Gus Schreiner, my informant, assumed the leadership in the Schreiner Cattle Company and maintains it to this day. Both his parents are foreign born: the father was born in Alsace-Lorraine and the mother was born in Germany, but he was born in Kerr County and has lived here his entire life with the exception of brief periods which were spent in a German-English school in San Antonio and a private business college in New York City. It is said that, even though the name Schreiner is German (meaning cabinet builder), the family spoke French while living in Alsace-Lorraine. However, Mr. Gus Schreiner did not indicate this in his interview. His code is SGR1.

The next oldest informant is Mrs. D. Knox, age seventy-nine. She was born in Brady, Texas, but has lived in the northwest corner of Kerr County sixty-five years. Her father was born in Missouri, but her mother is Texas born. Mrs. Knox has spent her entire life on a farm or ranch, most of which was in the northwestern part of Kerr County. She finished the fifth grade in school. She has no German ancestry. She is the mother, stepmother, or grandmother of fourteen children, all of whom were her responsibility at one time or another.

Her code is KNG1.

Next from the standpoint of age we have Mr. Mack Henderson, age seventy. His father came to Kerr County in 1857 from Tennessee. His mother was born in Mississippi. The father was one of the early residents of the county who resisted the Confederacy, preferring to cast their lot with the Union. Mr. Henderson finished the eighth grade in school. He has spent his life in the northwestern portion of Kerr County, which is an area where ranching is the principal occupation. His code is HNG2.

Next we find Mr. John Leinweber, age sixty-four. He was born in Kerrville on a site across the street from the location of the present Post Office. He is related to Warren Rees, one of the informants, and he is a descendant of Alonzo Rees, on the maternal side of his family. He says he cannot remember just how far he went in school, but he has learned many things along with his children as they progressed in school. He has also read the complete works of Shakespeare as a hobby. He is conversant with much of the local history and folklore of the county in its early days. His home is situated in a rural area a few miles from the town of Ingram on considerable acreage, but his main vocation is being postmaster at Ingram. His code is LGNR1.

Fifth in point of age is Mr. Felix Real, who is sixty-three. He is the grandson of Casper Real, who came to this county in 1856. His mother was born in Fredericksburg and his father in San Antonio. His grandfather married Miss Emilie Schreiner; thus we find these two pioneer families related. Both Charles Schreiner and Casper Real settled

first in Bexar County, but because of a drouth there, they sought land elsewhere. Alonzo Rees, who was already a settler in Kerr County, met them in San Antonio one day and told them about the running water always found in this area. Upon his advice, the Schreiner and Real families moved to this county. Felix Real was educated in the public schools of his time and attended Newton Marshall Academy in San Antonio and a private school in Austin for one year. His family spoke German at home. Since his wife is of German descent also, they taught their three eldest children the German language. Mr. Real is engaged in ranching and has followed that occupation all his life. He now resides on land that was owned by his father. His code is RGR2.

Mr. Warren Rees, a descendant of both Alonzo Rees and Joshua Brown (two of the very first immigrants to Kerr County from Tennessee), is the sixth informant. He is now forty-nine years of age. At present he resides on land originally held by Alonzo Rees. His ranch serves a twofold purpose today: ranching on a small scale and the operation of a camp for girls in the summer. As a vocation, Mr. Rees has taught mathematics in Texas public schools and the University of Houston for nearly thirty years. He is at present employed in Tivy High School in Kerrville. He holds a B. A. degree in mathematics from Southwestern University and an M. A. in mathematics from The University of Texas. There are several firsts attributed to the Rees family. Alonzo Rees, Warren's grandfather, was the first county clerk in Kerr County; it is thought that the first school was taught on the land now held by Warren Rees; and the first Protestant minister, or circuit rider, came to this

county at the behest of the Rees family. The code for Warren Rees is RNG3.

Our next informant is Mrs. Alfred Ellebracht, the wife of a well-to-do rancher in the Sunset Community which is located in the northwestern portion of Kerr County. She is forty-six years of age and a high school graduate. Her mother was born in Karnes County and her father was born in Gonzales County. Even though Mrs. Ellebracht was born in Gonzales County, she moved to Kerr County when two years old and has lived here or just over the county line ever since. Since her husband is engaged in ranching, Mrs. Ellebracht has spent her life in the environment of a ranch where she has a comfortable home and the conveniences of a city, yet she is in touch daily with the laborers who either live continuously on the ranch or who find seasonal employment there. Her knowledge of ranch life is not the glamorized version of Hollywood or Zane Grey, but is an earthy and realistic conception. Her code is EGR3.

In order to represent the teen-age generation, I chose for my eighth informant one of my students, Fayrene Dietert, who is a senior in high school. She is a fourth generation Dietert in Kerr County, being the great-granddaughter of Christian Dietert, who came to this country from Germany in 1854. In 1857 he came to Kerrville. She is seventeen years of age. Some of the Dieterts are ranchers, but her own particular branch of the family is non-ranching. Her code is DGNR2.

With some knowledge of the method used in collecting data, as

well as some insight into the informants themselves, perhaps the reader will be enabled to read this glossary with more interest and profit.

CHAPTER III

GLOSSARY

AFTERNOON
EGR3
RGR2
KNG1
SGR1
DGNR2
RNG3

That part of the day before suppertime. (Modern)
See also evening.

ALAMO
RGR2

A sycamore tree. (Given by one of the older informants.)
Barcia: A tree.
WD: A poplar in SW U.S. and Sp. America.
See also button willow.

ANDIRONS
EGR3
RGR2
SGR1
RNG3
DGNR2

Irons used to hold logs for burning.
Kurath (51): "...the usual expression in Pennsylvania and the North.... As a literary term is current also in Southern cities."
DAE citations from 1640.
See also dogirons, dogs, firedogs.

ANTIGODLIN
HNG2
KNG1

Diagonal or diagonally. (Old-fashioned)
ADD citations from Texas, N La., SW Ind., SE Ark., Fla., Kans., and NE Okla.
See also catty-cornered.

ARKANSAWYER
KNG1

A rustic or countryman. (Old-fashioned)
ADD citations from NW Ark. (universal among uneducated) and SW Mo.
See also hayseed, backwoods person, backward person, cedar cutter, hill billy.

ARMFUL OF WOOD
SGR1
LGNR1
KNG1
RNG3

The amount of wood that can be carried in the arms at one time.
Kurath (57): "This is the regular expression of the North...but in the South Midland it is less common.... Armful has replaced load and

ARMFUL OF WOOD (Cont'd)

armload almost completely in the Pittsburg area and in the Pennsylvania German section."
NED: "As much as can be held in both arms...." Citations from 1579.
See also armload.

ARMLOAD OF WOOD

RNG1
RGR2

Same as above.
Kurath (57): "Load and armload are found throughout the Midland except for western Virginia."

ATTIC

LGNR1
EGR3
SGR1
KNG1
RNG3
DGNR2

An unfinished space at the top of the house.
See also loft.

BABY BUGGY

KNG1
RNG3
RGR2
EGR3
HNG2
SGR1
DGNR2
LGNR1

A small carriage that a baby is rolled in.
Kurath (77): "...west of the Alleghenies, baby buggy [is used]. Baby buggy is current also in Ohio and on the lower Kanawha in West Virginia."

BACKLOG

SGR1
LGNR1
EGR3
DGNR2
RNG3
HNG2
KNG1
RGR2

A large log at the back of a fireplace.
DAE citations from 1684.
NED: Chiefly in U.S.

BACKWARD PERSON

EGR3

A person from the back country.
See also Arkansawyer, hayseed, backwoods man, cedar cutter, and hill billy.

BACKWOODS MAN
RGR2
DGNR2

A poor white; a rustic; one from the back country.
DAE citations from 1784.

BAG
RNG3
SGR1
DGNR2

A paper container.
See also sack.

BARB WIRE
RNG3
LGNR1
SGR1

A single strand wire with sharp points on it.
See also bobwire.

BARNLOT
RGR2
KNG1
SGR1
HNG2
EGR3
DGNR2

An enclosure adjoining the barn.
Kurath (55): "Southern barnlot."
DAE citations from 1724. American in origin.
ADD citations from NW Ark., E Ala., W Ga., Cent. Ky., and Ozarks.
See also barnyard.

BARNYARD
DGNR2
KNG1

Same as the above.
Kurath (55): "It seems that barnyard is on the way to nationwide currency."

BASTARD
RNG3
LGNR1

An illegitimate child. (Modern)
See also woods colt.

BATTERCAKE
SGR1
LGNR1

A griddle cake.
Kurath (69): "The characteristic term south of the Potomac is batter cake, and this southern term has been carried westward into the Blue Ridge and into the valley of the Kanawha in West Virginia."
DAE: Chiefly Southern. Citations from 1833.
See also hotcake and pancake.

BAWL
RGR2
HNG2
KNG1

The noise made by a cow at feeding time.
WD: "To cry out with a loud full sound...originally of animals."
Kurath (30): "Cows whose calves are being weaned are said to bawl. This expression is current throughout the Midland, including West Jersey, except only the Pennsylvania German settlements of Eastern Pennsylvania."

BEDSPREAD
SGR1
RGR2
EGR3
HNG2
DGNR2
RNG3

A fancy daytime cover for a bed. (Modern. The older informants said counterpin when they were young.)
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1845.
See also counterpin, counterpane.

BELLY BAND
DGNR2

A saddle girth (Old-fashioned)
See also cinch, girt.

BLINDS
SGR1

Window shades on rollers.
Kurath (52): "In a large part of the Eastern states, the people still pull down the curtains or the blinds.... The Midland term is blinds."

BLINKY
LGNR1
KNG1
SGR1
RNG3

Used to describe milk that is beginning to sour.
ADD citations from NE Cent. Ind., Va., NW Ark., SW Va., Neb., W Cent. W.Va., and Tenn.
See also blue john.

BLUE JEANS
RGR2

An outer working garment of blue denim. (Modern)
See also overalls.

BLUE JOHN
KNG1
LGNR1

Milk that is beginning to sour.
WD: "Milk so lacking in richness as to have a bluish color." (Dial.)
ADD: SW Mo. and NW Ark.

BLUE NORTHER
RGR2

A strong wind from the north.
See also norther.

BOBWIRE
KNG1
RGR2
HNG2
DGNR2

Same as barb wire. (Used only by the older informants. One said that she now says barb wire, but used to say bobwire.)
ADD citations from W Va. and Texas Panhandle.
See also barb wire, barbed wire.

BOOGER
DGNR2

A ghost or goblin.
DAE: American origin; citations from 1866.
ADD: Miss., W Md., S Ill., and NW Ark.
Ling. Atlas: Southern border of N.C. and shades into mountains of N.C., Va., and W.Va.
See also goblin and haint.

BOSQUE [baski]
RGR2

A thicket of mesquite. (Used only by one older informant.)
DAE: American origin, from Sp. bosque, "a clump or grove of trees." Citations from 1863.
NED: A cognate form, bosket, bosquet (French bosquet) is cited from 1737; defined as "a plantation in a garden, park, etc., of underwood and small trees; a thicket."
WD: "Lit. woods...."
See also chapparral.

BOSS
HNG2
RNG3

A facetious term for wife.
NED: "A fat woman." (Obs.)
See also old hen, old lady.

BOTTOMLAND
SGR1
ERG3
HNG2

See also bottoms.

BOTTOMS
RNG3

Low ground in a valley.
Kurath (61): "Bottomlands is the most common expression in the North Midland, bottoms in the South and South Midland."
DAE citations from 1634.
ADD: SE Va., NW Ark., SW Mo., W Va.; seldom N Mex., Calif., and Utah.

BRANCH
HNG2

A small stream.
Kurath (61): "In the South and in the South Midland and as far North as the Kanawha Valley branch is the usual designation of the tributary of a creek or a river."
DAE: This meaning of American origin; citations from 1663.
ADD: Ala., Ga., S Ind., Kans., SE Va., Ark., Del., Ill., Ohio, R.I., Vt., Wash., Miss., Gulf Coast, and Texas.

BRONC
HNG2
EGR3
RGR2
LGNR1
DGNR2

Any unbroken horse.
WD: "A small half wild horse or pony...probably descended from stock that escaped from settlers in Mexico."
DAE: American origin; citations from 1893.
Barcia: Rough, coarse, harsh, unpolished, abrupt.

BROTHER SO-AND-SO
KNG1
ERG3
RNG3

A title for a minister.
See also Reverend.

BRUSH
DGNR2

A thicket of mesquite.
See also chapparral, thicket, bosque.

BUCK
SGR1
LGNR1

To try to throw the rider.
DAE citations from 1864. In use in Australia in 1859.
NED: "To leap vertically from the ground...." Citations from 1859.
See also pitch.

BUCKET
LGNR1
RGR2
DGNR2
RNG3
EGR3

A container used to bring in coal.
See also scuttle.

BUCKET (wooden)

A round wooden pail with an arched handle.
Kurath (60): "All of the Midland and the South

BUCKET (wooden) (Cont'd)

LGNR1
KNG1
HNG2
SGR1
EGR3
RGR2

used bucket...but pail is not unknown."
DAE: "Applied, in the South and West, to all kinds of pails and cans holding over a gallon." Citations from 1622.
NED citations from 1300.

BULL

RNG3
LGNR1
RGR2
KNG1
EGR3
SGR1

A male cow.
Kurath (62): "The plain term bull is current everywhere and in the North Midland and in N. Y. state other expressions are rare. In New England, the South, and the South Midland, however, the plain term is not used by older folk of one sex in the presence of the other."
ADD: In SW Mo., W W.Va., Cent. Texas, W N.C., and E Tenn. it is not mentioned in mixed company.
See also toro, surly.

BUNCH

KNG1

A band or herd of saddle horses.
See also caviard, string, remuda.

BUNDLE

LGNR1
SGR1
RGR2
RNG3
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3
DGNR2

An armful of cut grain tied together.
Kurath (67): "In the Southern area and in the South Midland bundle is the regular word for a sheaf of wheat.... In the South sheaf is almost entirely restricted to cultured speakers."
ADD: E Ala., Va., Tenn., Texas, and W.Va.

BUREAU

HNG2
DGNR2
KNG1
LGNR1

A chest of drawers. (Old-fashioned)
See also dresser.

BURRO

SGR1
EGR3

A small variety of jackass or donkey.
WD: "A donkey, especially a small one used as a pack animal."

BURRO (Cont'd)

RGR2
LGNR1

NED: [Sp.] A donkey. Citations from 1800.
Barcia: A donkey.
Atwood's Unpublished Maps of Texas: Burro has a slightly larger distribution than donkey. Burro is confined to South and West Texas with the exception of Collin County in the North.
See also donkey.

BUSS

LGNR1
SGR1

To kiss. (Old-fashioned)
WD: "To kiss with a smack or rudely."
NED: Archaic and dialectical. Citations from 1571.
ADD: Md., Ala., Ark., W.Va., Cent. Pa., Miss., and Tenn.
Ling. Atlas: Del., Va., N.C. as far west as the mountains, and one isolated area in Eastern Pa.
See also kiss, smack, smooch.

BUTTER BEANS

DGNR2
SGR1
LGNR1
RNG3
RGR2
KNG1
EGR3

Large flat beans.
Kurath (73): "Butter beans is a common expression for lima beans in all the Southern area."
See also lima beans.

BUTTON WILLOW

KNG1

A sycamore tree. (Used by only one of the older speakers.)
Kurath (76) records buttonball and buttonwood, but not this term.

CAJUN

KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
SGR1
DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3

An Acadian French person.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1880.

CALABOOSE

A jocular term for jail.

CALABOOSE (Cont'd)
LGNR1
RGR2
KNG1
EGR3

WD: Local, U.S.
NED: "The name, in New Orleans and adjacent parts of U.S., for a common prison."
ADD: Ala. and Ga.

CALIFORNIA SADDLE
RGR2

A small type of saddle.
DAE: "An elaborate type of saddle favored in California." Citations from 1849.

CANAL
KNG2

A main irrigation ditch.

CANYON
KNG1
SGR1
LGNR1
RGR2
EGR3
HNG2

A deeply cut valley or gully.
DAE: "Anglicized from cañon" in SW. Citations from 1842.
NED: "A phonetic spelling of Sp. cañon...."
ADD: W. Texas, Calif., Kans., western U.S., and Mexico.
Cuyas: A gorge or ravine.

CARRY
HNG2
DGNR2

To accompany (a person).
Kurath (80): "This well-known Southern carry you home is heard from Annapolis, Md. southward. In Va. it stops short at the Blue Ridge, but in the Carolinas this characteristic expression of the plantation country has spread westward into the mountains."
DAE: S. Dial. "if meaning to guide, convey, or escort" a person. Citations from 1846.
ADD: West--to lead an animal; La.--"Carry Miss Smith"; W N.C.--"Carries his gal"; W.Va.--"Carry you home."
See also take, escort.

CATTLE GUARD
RNG3
KNG1
DGNR2
LGNR1
RGR2
EGR3
HNG2

A crossing that leads from the road to the pasture, with the footing so arranged that cattle cannot cross it.
WD: A device at railroad crossings to keep cattle off the track.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1843.

CATTY-CORNERED

LGNR1
DGNR2
RGR2
SGR1
HNG2
EGR2

Diagonal(ly).
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1837.
ADD: Mass., N.Y., Md., Ark., and Ala.
See also antigodlin.

CAVIARD

RGR2

A band or herd of saddle horses.
DAE: American origin. Also recorded as cavy-yard, cavayard. Var. of cavallard, a drove or herd of horses. Citations from 1824.
NED: "Cavallard. A term used, in Louisiana and Texas, by the caravans which cross the prairies, to denote a band of horses or mules."
See also remuda, string of horses.

CEDAR CUTTER

LGNR1
RNG3
HNG2

A poor white person or a rustic person.[1]
See also Arkansawyer, white trash, hayseed, hill billy.

CHAPPARRAL

RGR2

A mesquite thicket.
DAE: American origin. Origin in SW from Sp. In Sp. it means a grove of evergreen oaks or a thicket. Citations from 1847.
Barcia: A plantation of evergreen oaks; related to chaparra which means a kind of oak--a bramble bush.
See also bosque, thicket.

CHAPS

RGR2
DGNR2
RNG3

Leather leggings worn by cowboys. (The older informants said that chaps had been popularized by rodeos and movies, but it is not used among real ranchers.)
DAE: American origin. Sometimes spelled shaps. Citations from 1884.
ADD: Colloq. for Sp. chaparajos.

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[1]Name given because a large number of poverty-stricken inhabitants of the Edwards Plateau make their living by clearing the land of cedar.

CHEST OF DRAWERS
EGR3
DGNR2
RNG3

A piece of furniture with drawers for storing clothing.
NED citations from 1599.

CHICKEN HOUSE
RNG3
DGNR2

A building for housing chickens.
See also hen house, chicken roost.

CHICKEN ROOST
DGNR2

Same as above.
See also chicken house.

CHICKIE, CHICKIE
RNG3
DGNR2
EGR3
HNG2
KNG1
SGR1
RGR2
LGNR1

A call to chickens.
Kurath (65): "The calls chick! and chickie! are current throughout the Eastern States, but in certain sections other expressions are used as well...."

CHIFFEROBE
RGR2

A chest of drawers without a mirror.
See also chest of drawers, bureau.

CHIGGER
KNG1
HNG2
SGR1
LGNR1
DGNR2

A small insect that supposedly bores into the skin.
WD: "The six-legged larval form of certain mites.... They are found on grass and bushes and attach themselves to the skin of man causing intense itching."
DAE: West India origin. Also Sp. chego, chegre. Citations from 1743.
NED citations from 1691.

CHIPS
EGR3

Small bits of wood used for starting a fire.
DAE: Has more frequent use in U.S. than in England. Citations from 1800.

CHRISTMAS GIFT

A Christmas greeting. (Old-fashioned)
Kurath (80): "The simple folk of the South and

CHRISTMAS GIFT (Cont'd)

HNG2
LGNR1
KNG1
EGR3

South Midland still say Christmas gift! This salutation is also heard from older people in southern Pennsylvania (from the Susquehanna westward) and is in rather common use in the Ohio Valley, in West Virginia as well as in Ohio. It seems fairly clear that both the South and the Midland had this expression from early times, and that Merry Christmas! has largely displaced Christmas gift! in Pennsylvania and on Delaware Bay in fairly recent times."

CHUNK

KNG1

To throw or hurl an object. (Old-fashioned)
WD: "To throw, as a stone or stick."
DAE: American origin. Colloq. Citations from 1835.
ADD: N.C., Fla., Ga., Ala., and Gulf of Mexico.

CINCH

LGNR1
DGNR2
KNG1
SGR1
RGR2

The girth of a saddle.
WD: "A strong girth for a pack or saddle."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1859.
Barcia: "A girth, belt, or girdle cloth made of hemp and used for a girth."
See also belly band and girt.

CLABBER

RNG3
LGNR1
SGR1
DGNR2
HNG2
EGR3
RGR2
KNG1

Milk that has soured and thickened.
Kurath (39): "Clabber is the regular term for clabber milk everywhere south of the Pennsylvania line."
DAE: Derived from Irish-Gaelic clabar. To clabber (verb form) is of American origin. Citations from 1828.

CLABBER CHEESE

KNG1
LGNR1

A cheese made at home of clabber milk.
Kurath (43): "From the lower James southward clabber cheese is a common name for cottage cheese."
See also smearcase, cottage cheese, clabber curd, curd.

CLABBER CURD

KNG1

Same as above.
See also clabber cheese.

CLAPBOARDS
RNG3

Overlapping boards on the outside of a house.
WD: "A narrow board, often thicker at one edge than the other, used for weatherboarding frame buildings.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1835.
Ling. Atlas: New England, N.Y. state, Long Island, N Pa., Philadelphia area, N.J., and isolated areas in Md. and Va.

CLEAR OFF
KNG1
EGR3

To become free of clouds after a rain or storm.

CLEAR UP
LGNR1
SGR1
RNG3
DGNR2
RGR2

Same as above.

CLIMBED
HNG2
SGR1
EGR3
DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3

Past tense of climb.
See also clumb.

CLING PEACH
EGR3
HNG2

A peach whose meat sticks to the stone or seed.

CLINGSTONE PEACH
RGR2
KNG1
SGR1
LGNR1
DGNR2

Same as above.
Kurath (72): "The Midland has cling-stone peach and cling peach...."

CLINK
RNG3

A jail.
WD: Colloq. "A prison or prison cell; a lock up; a guardhouse."

CLINK (Cont'd)

See also batcage, hock, jug, calaboose, free boarding house.

CLOSET

DGNR2
RNG3
LGNR1
SGR1
RGR2
KNG1
EGR3
HNG2

A storage place for clothes.
Kurath (52): "On Narragansett Bay, where closet is the usual designation for the pantry, and in Western Pennsylvania and the adjoining counties of Ohio and West Virginia, clothes press is current among all social classes in the country as well as in the cities."

CLOUDBURST

DGNR2

A very heavy rain.
WD: "A sudden copious rainfall, as if the whole cloud had been precipitated at once."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1817.
See also downpour, gully-washer.

CLUCK

DGNR2
RGR2

A setting hen.
Kurath: "Clook (less commonly cluck) is an expression of Pennsylvania German origin.... It is rare beyond the boundaries of the state."
ADD citations W Md.
See also setting hen.

CLUMB

RGR2
KNG1

Past tense of climb.
ADD citations Ind., E Ala., W Ga., Neb., Pa., Ill., Kans., W.Va., and S. Appalachians.

COAL BUCKET

KNG1
HNG2
EGR3

A container for bringing in coal.
Kurath (60): "...this term is common in all of the Midland area as well as the greater part of North Carolina."
See also coal shuttle.

COAL OIL

RNG3
DGNR2
SGR1
LGNR1
RGR2

Kerosene. (This term is used for kerosene by the older informants, although they admitted that it is now called kerosene by most people.)
DAE: "Petroleum or oil refined from it [kerosene]." Citations from 1858.
ADD citations Ark., Ill., S La., and NE Ky.

COAL OIL (Cont'd) See also kerosene.

HNG2
KNG1
ERG3

COAL SHUTTLE A container for bringing in coal.
See also coal bucket.

DGNR2

CO, CO A call used in calling horses from the pasture.
Kurath, Fig. 100: "A call to cows in the pasture."
See also whistle, cope.

DGNR2
SGR3

COKE A soft drink.

DGNR2

COLD DRINK A soft drink.

EGR3
HNG2
DGNR2
RNG3

COLORED PEOPLE Polite term for Negroes.
ADD citations N.Y., Va., and Ga.
See also Negroes, darkey.

RNG3
LGNR1
RGR2
SGR1

COMFORT A heavy bed cover.
DAE: "A wadded quilt." Citations from 1834.
Kurath (61): "A thick padded cotton quilt is known as a comfort in the Midland and the South, as a comforter or as a comfortable in the North."

RNG3
LGNR1
DGNR2
RGR2
EGR3
HNG2
KNG1

COMMODE An indoor toilet.
WD: "A movable sink or washstand with a cupboard underneath."

KNG1
HNG2

COMMODE (Cont'd)
RGR2
RNG3
EGR3
DGNR2

NED: "A small article of furniture enclosing a chamber utensil; a close stool."

CONSIDERABLE
RNG3

A good deal.
NED: U.S. colloq. for a large quantity.
DAE citations from 1677.

COOKED CHEESE
RGR2

A homemade cheese. (The preparation of this cheese involves actual cooking--not simply heating as is required in the making of cottage cheese.)

COON
KNG1
SGR1
HNG2

A humorous nickname for a Negro.
WD: "Colloq., chiefly U.S. A Negro."
See also shine, darkey.

COPE
RGR2
KNG1

A cry to call horses from the pasture. (Older informants said they used this when younger, but that it is passing out of use now.)
See also co, whistle.

CORN BIN
DGNR2

A place where corn is stored.
See also corn crib.

CORNBREAD
DGNR2
RNG3
HNG2
RGR2
EGR3

A batter type bread made with corn meal and egg.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1796.

CORN CRIB
KNG1

A storage place for corn.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1687.
See also corn bin.

CORN DODGER

KNG1
HNG2

A bread made of corn meal and water.
DAE: "Bread made of Indian corn meal baked hard in small cakes or pones." Citations from 1834.
NED: U.S. origin. Citations from 1856.
ADD citations SE Mo., NW Ark., Ala., Ind., and Cent. N.Y.
Kurath (68): "A South Midland term for corn griddle cake."

CORN PONE

LGNR1
SGR1

A bread made of corn meal and water.
DAE: American origin. "Bread made of corn meal, water or milk, and salt, usually baked in small loaves or masses." Citations from 1839.
ADD citations from Ohio, Cent. Ky., W.Va., SW Pa., N.C., and Fla.
Kurath (67-8): Extremely common in the South and most of the Midland.

CORRAL

RNG3
RGR2
LGNR1

A pen for horses.
DAE: Derived from Spanish. Citations from 1825.
NED: (Chiefly in Sp. America and U.S.) "An enclosure or pen for horses, cattle, etc." Citations from 1582.
Barcia: An open space near the house that serves for different uses. Originally it was protected by a guardrail and served for a battleground or a place to isolate cows and sheep.
See also horse lot.

COTTAGE CHEESE

RGR2
EGR3
RNG3
SGR1
DGNR2

A homemade cheese that is made by heating and draining clabber milk. (Older informants say that this is a term that has come into use recently.)
Kurath (71): "Cottage cheese is the trade name for curds in all the Eastern States; it is especially common in the urbanized areas."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1848.
ADD citations from W.Va., N.J., and SW Pa.
See also clabber cheese, curd cheese, curd, smearcase.

COTTON FIELD

SGR1
HNG2

A plot of ground where cotton is raised.
DAE: American origin.
See also cotton patch.

COTTON PATCH
KNG1
LGNR1
DGNR2
RGR2

A plot of ground where cotton is raised.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1760.
See also cotton field.

COUNTERPANE
DGNR2

A fancy daytime cover for a bed. (Old fashioned)
NED citations from 1459.
ADD citations in the West.
See also bedspread and counterpin.

COUNTERPIN
HNG2
LGNR1
KNG1
EGR3

Same as above.
DAE: "Counterpane." Citations from 1687.
ADD citations from Tenn., SE Va., W N.C., W.Va., and Ky.
See also bedspread and counterpane.

COURTING
EGR3
RNG3
SGR1
RGR2
DGNR2
HNG2

The act of paying attention to a girl with the intention of marrying her. (This is the old-fashioned meaning; the younger generation use it to mean necking.)
DAE citations from 1607.
NED: To make love with a view to marriage. Citations from 1580.
ADD citations from Va., S Va., and N W.Va.

COWBOY
HNG2
RGR2
SGR1
LGNR1
DGNR2
RNG3

A man who works with cattle, rounding up, branding, etc.
See also cowhand.

COWBOY SADDLE
SGR1
HNG2
KNG1

A saddle with a large horn for securing rope when roping animals.

COWHAND
KNG1

A man who works with cattle, rounding up, branding, etc.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1886.

COWHAND (Cont'd)

ADD citations from SW U.S., N.Mex., and Texas.
See also cowboy, cowpoke, cowpuncher, waddy.

COWLOT

SGR1

A pen for cows.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1645-46.
Kurath (55): "...cowlot and milk lot turn up in scattered fashion in different parts of the South and South Midland."
ADD citations from Ga.
See also cowpen.

COWPEN

LGNR1
DGNR2
RGR2
RNG3
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3

Same as above.
Kurath (55): "The enclosure adjoining the cow barn or cow shed is generally called a cow pen north of the Mason and Dixon line as well as in large parts of the South."
See also cow lot.

CRADLE

KNG1

A wooden frame that holds logs for sawing.
See also sawbuck.

CRAWL

EGR3
RGR2
KNG1
HNG2
LGNR1
DGNR2
RNG3
SGR1

To creep on all fours.
Ling. Atlas: Appears along coast line of New England and in Pa. Becomes the only term south of Pa. except for a few scattered areas in Del. and Md. The North prefers creeps.

CREEK

HNG2
RNG3
KNG1
DGNR2
SGR1
RGR2
LGNR1
EGR3

A small stream.
Kurath (61): "Creek is the most common term for a small stream in the Eastern States."
DAE: This meaning is American in origin. Citations from 1638.
NED: In U.S. and British colonies creek means the branch of a main river. Citations from 1674.
ADD citations from S. Appalachians, W N.C., E Tenn., and Miss. Krik is more common in the North.
See also branch.

CUPBOARD
DGNR2
LGNR1
RGR2

A piece of kitchen furniture for keeping food.
See also safe.

CUP TOWEL
EGR3

A cloth for drying dishes.
See also dish towel, drying cloth.

CUR
HNG2
RGR2
KNG1
LGNR1
SGR1
DGNR2

A worthless dog.
See also mongrel.

CURD
LGNR1
HNG2

Homemade cheese.
Kurath (71): "...curds, the standard British term, has survived in two entirely separate areas in which English settlers have predominated--Eastern New England and the coastal section of the South."
See also cottage cheese, clabbercheese, curdcheese, smearcase.

DADDY
LGNR1
DGNR2

A term used to mean husband.
See also old man.

DAD-GUM
HNG2

A mild expression of disgust.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1887.
ADD citations from the South, Cincinnati, N.C., and N W.Va.

DAGO
SGR1
LGNR1
RGR2

A derogatory term for an Italian.
DAE: American origin. Colloq., meaning, originally, a Spaniard or Portugese, or any Southern European. Citations from 1832.
NED: "A name originally given in the southwestern section of the United States to a man of Spanish parentage; now extended to include Spaniards, Portugese, and Italians in general."

DAMNIGGER
LGNR1
A derogatory term for Negro.
See also shine, darkey.

DARKEY
DGNR2
LGNR1
RGR2
A term for Negro which was considered derogatory by one informant but polite by two.
NED: "A Negro, a blacky." Colloq. Citations from 1840.
See also damnigger, shine.

DARN
RGR2
ERG3
A mild expression of disgust.
DAE: American origin. Colloq. Citations from 1808.

DAVENPORT
RGR2
A sofa.
See also couch, divan, sofa, settee.

DIME STORE
SGR1
RNG3
KNG1
A variety store.
See also racket store.

DINNER BUCKET
LGNR1
A metal container for carrying lunch.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1856.
See also dinner pail.

DINNER PAIL
RNG2
Same as above.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1856.
See also dinner bucket.

DIP
KNG1
HNG2
A sweet liquid served on pudding. (This is an old-fashioned term; the current term is sauce.)
DAE citations from 1825.
NED: Local English and American term for sauce. Citations from 1825.
ADD citations from Md., NW Ark., SW Mo., Ark., Va., and Texas Panhandle.

DIRTDAUBERS
A kind of wasp.

DIRTDAUBERS (Cont'd)

KNG1
LGNR1

DAE: American origin (Southern). Citations from 1844.
WD: Southern U.S.
NED: "A species of sand wasp." Citations from 1844.
ADD citations from SE Va., SW Mo., NW Ark., and S U.S.

DIRT TANK

EGR3
RGR2
DGNR2
LGNR1

A pool or tank where livestock are watered.
See also rock tank, pond.

DISH TOWEL

DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3
RGR2
KNG1
SGR1

A cloth for drying dishes.
DAE citations from 1869.
See also cup towel, drying cloth.

DITCH

RNG3

A deeply cut valley or gully formed by erosion.
NED citations from 1589.
See also canyon.

DIVAN

DGNR2
RNG3

A sofa.
See also couch, davenport, settee.

DIVED

DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3
HNG2

The past tense of dive.
See also dove.

DOGGONE

RNG3

A mild expression of disgust.
DAE: Origin uncertain. Colloq. Citations from 1851.
NED: U.S. slang. Some think the original form was dog on it to be compared with pox on it. Citations from 1851.

DOGGONE (Cont'd) — See also dad-gum.

DOGIE
RNG3 DGNR2 SGR1 LGNR1 RGR1 KNG1 EGR3

A motherless calf.
WD: "A motherless calf in a range herd; a cowboy term. Western U.S."
DAE: American origin (Western); also spelled doughgy.
ADD citations from NW Texas and W Texas. "The term was invented by a Texas ranchman."

DOGIRONS
LGNR1

Irons to hold logs for burning in the fireplace.
Kurath (51): "The andirons in the fireplace are generally known as firedogs, dogs, or dog-irons in the greater part of the South, the South Midland and SW Pa."
See also andirons, firedogs, dogs.

DOGS
RNG3

Same as the above.
See also andirons, firedogs, dogirons.

DONKEY
RNG3 HNG2

A small variety of jackass.
DAE citations from 1785.
NED: "A recent word, apparently of dialect or slang origin." Citations from 1785.
ADD citations from N.Y. and NE Pa.
See also burro.

DOUBLETREE
HNG2 KNG1 SGR1 RGR2 LGNR1 DGNR2 EGR3 RNG3

A bar to which the singletrees are attached.
Kurath (58): "...doubletree (shortened from double swingletree)...."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1847.

DOVE
EGR3 RGR2 KNG1 SGR1

Past tense of dive.
WD: Chiefly U.S. Colloq.
NED: Occasional past tense of dive.
ADD citations from Canada, La., Ala., W Ga., SW Mo., and Ill.

DOWNPOUR
LGNR1
DGNR2
EGR3
KNG1

A very heavy rain.
See also cloudburst.

DRAG
RNG3
LGNR1
EGR3

An implement for leveling ground.
NED: "A heavy kind of harrow for breaking up ground or breaking clods...." Citations from 1388.
See also harrow.

DRAGON FLY
RNG3
DGNR2
SGR1
RGR2

A flying insect that lives near the water.
Kurath (14): "The literary dragon fly is known to the better educated."
See also snake doctor, mosquito hawk.

DRAW
EGR3
SGR1
LGNR1

A dry creek bed.
WD: "A natural drainage way or gully."
DAE: American origin. "A drain, ravine or coulee."
NED: "A natural ditch or drain that draws the water off a piece of land." Citations from 1884.
ADD citations from Neb., W.Va., and from Miss. to the Pacific.

DRESSER
RGR2
DGNR2
KNG1

A chest of drawers with a mirror.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1651.
NED: Originally in England a dresser was a table or sideboard in the kitchen where food was prepared. Citations from 1420.
ADD citations from SE Va., W Mass., and Cent. N.Y.
See also bureau, chest of drawers.

DRYING CLOTH
HNG2

A cloth for drying dishes.
See also dish towel, cup towel.

DUNGAREES
DGNR2

An outer working garment.
NED citations from 1891.
See also jeans, overalls.

DURN
RGR2
A mild expression of disgust.
DAE: Euphemism for damn. Colloq. Citations from 1835.
ADD citations from W N.C., E Tenn., SW Mo., Cent. Ky., Fla., and Ohio.

DUTCH SADDLE
KNG1
A type of saddle which is similar to or the same as the English type. It has no horn.

EARTHWORM
LGNR1
RGR2
HNG2
KNG1
A worm used for fish bait.
Kurath (45): "The Carolinas and Ga. are the only part of the Eastern States where earthworm is a folk word. Elsewhere it is a book or city word."
NED citations from 1591.
ADD citations from E Ala. and W Ga.
Atwood's Maps of Texas: Distribution in central, eastern, and Rio Grande Valley sections.

ELM MOTTE
RGR2
RNG3
A clump of elm trees.
DAE: Motte, American origin; South and West. Citations from 1844.

ENGLISH SADDLE
EGR3
HNG2
RNG3
DGNR2
SGR1
LGNR1
RGR2
A type of saddle which is similar to an Eastern saddle.
See also Dutch saddle, California saddle.

ESCORT
SGR1
Used in the sense of "May I take you home?" (This was used by an informant who was trying to be very proper.)

EVENING
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
LGNR1
DGNR2
That part of the day before supper time. (This is an old-fashioned term; the modern term is afternoon.)
WD: Local in the Southern States and England for afternoon.
DAE: Used in the South and West for afternoon. Citations from 1790.

FARTHEREST
SGR1
DGNR2
KNG1

Superlative of far. (Used by old-fashioned speakers.)
ADD citations from New England, NW Ark., and S W.Va.

FARTHEST
RNG3
DGNR2
LGNR1
RGR2

Superlative of far. (Used by the younger and better educated speakers.)
See also fartherest and furtherest.

FAUCET
RNG3
DGNR2
LGNR1
SGR1
RGR2
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3

A device to turn on the water indoors.
Kurath (15): "Faucet, which is in regular use among all social groups in the North, is encroaching upon spicket and spigot in parts of the Midland and the South."

FAVOR
RNG3
DGNR2
SGR1
LGNR1
HNG2
EGR3

To resemble; e.g., the child favors his father.
NED: "To resemble in face or features; rarely, to resemble generally...." Now colloq. Citations from 1609.
ADD citations from Ark., Miss., SE Ky., E Tenn., W N.C., SE Mo., Maine, W.Va., Cent. Pa., Cent. S.C., and W Tenn.

FEATHERBED
RGR2

A heavy bed cover. (This was given by a German informant.)
DAE: "A bed having a mattress filled with feathers." Citations from 1640.

FIREBOARD
HNG2

A shelf over the fireplace.
ADD citations from SW Va. and SE Tenn.
Kurath (5): "The South Midland, including the drainage basin of the Kanawha, has the distinctive expression fire board, which has spread down to the Atlantic between the Cape Fear and the Peedee rivers."

FIREDOGS
HNG2
KNG1

Irons used to hold logs for burning.
DAE citations from 1792.
See also andirons, dogs, dogirons.

FISHWORM
DGNR2

A worm used for fish bait.
Kurath (74): "Fish worm is common (1) in the upper Conn. Valley and Worcester County, Mass., (2) in the Dutch settlement area, and (3) in W. Va."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1870.
See also earthworm, rain worm.

FIVE-AND-TEN CENT STORE
HNG2
EGR3

A variety store.
DAE: Originally a store where articles were sold for five and ten cents. Citations from 1904.
See also dime store, racket store.

FLAPJACK
KNG1

A cake made of thin batter and fried on a griddle.
DAE citations from 1600. (Dial.)
NED citations from 1600.
ADD citations from W cent. W.Va.
See also hot cakes, battercakes, pancakes.

FLATS
KNG1
RGR2
RNG3
EGR3
LGNR1
DGNR2

Flat grassy country or low grounds.
Kurath (61): "In N.Y. state and the adjoining counties of Pa. flats is the regular designation [for low-lying flat meadow lands]."
DAE: Lowland. Citations from 1634.

FLOAT
RNG3

An implement for leveling off newly plowed land.
See also harrow, drag.

FLOOD
RGR2

A very heavy rain
See also cloudburst.

FLUME
EGR3

The main irrigation ditch.
DAE: American origin. "Channel made to convey water to a placer mine--or narrow ravine."

FLUME (Cont'd)

NED citations from 1784 in U.S. "An artificial channel for a stream of water to be applied to some industrial use."
See also canal.

FOLKS

DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3
RGR2
HNG2

Relatives.
DAE: Used to mean relatives from 1637.
NED citations from 1715.
ADD citations from NW Ark., Cent. Conn., W N.Y., Okla., and Fla.

FORENOON

KNG1

That period of time after breakfast and before lunch.
NED citations from 1506. "The portion of the day before noon."
ADD citations from the South (an affectation for morning) and S Ill.

FREE BOARDING HOUSE

RNG3

Jail.
See also batcage, calaboose, clink, jug, hock.

FREESTONE PEACH

LGNR1
DGNR2
SGR1
RGR2
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3

A peach whose meat does not stick to the seed.
Kurath (72): "Freestone peach is current in a greater part of the Midland and in the entire N. Eng. settlement area. It is the regular expression in W. Va. and the Shenandoah Valley and has survived to some extent in the westernmost parts of Va. and the Carolinas."
DAE citations from 1822.

FRENCH HARP

LGNR1
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
RNG3
SGR1

A musical instrument played with the lips.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1883.
Ling. Atlas: Used in the Williamsburg area of Va., the Piedmont of Va. and N.C., and becomes the predominant form in Blue Ridge and Smoky Mts. and W. Va.
Atwood Map: French harp predominates in Texas, though harp or mouth organ are occasionally used.

FRIJOLES
SGR1

The kind of beans that have brown spots before being cooked. (This is an old-fashioned term; now referred to as brown beans or pintos.)
DAE: SW and Spanish. Citations from 1838.
See also pintos.

FRONT ROOM
EGR3
HNG2

A room at the front of the house where guests are entertained.
Kurath (51): "The old time parlor is now largely a thing of the past. Some now call it the front room."
ADD citations from Wis. and Cent. N.Y. Replaces the usual term parlor.
See also parlor, sitting room, living room.

FRYING PAN
DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3
RGR2
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3

A flat pan for frying food.
Kurath (16): "In all the New England settlements spider is the word for the cast iron frying pan. The dividing line between Northern spider and Midland skillet is sharply defined in urban areas."
DAE citations from 1633.
NED citations from 1382.
See also skillet.

FURNISHINGS
RNG3

Household goods.
See also plunder.

FURTHEREST
EGR3
HNG2

Superlative of far.
ADD citations from New England, NW Ark., SW Mo., and W.Va.
See also fartherest and farthest.

GALLERY
LGNR1
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
RNG3

A porch. (Old-fashioned)
Kurath (52): "The unscreened porches of earlier days are also widely called porches, but other names are current too: piazza, stoop, veranda, gallery, sometimes with different shades of meanings."
NED citations from 1509. "A long, narrow platform or balcony, constructed on the outside of a building...."
ADD citations from Ark., SE Mo., NW Ark., E Ala.,

GALLERY (Cont'd)

W Ga., E Tenn., and W N.C. (Obsolete in the latter two.)
See also porch.

GARBAGE CAN

RNG3
RGR2

A container for food scraps.
See also slop bucket.

GARBAGE PAIL

Same as above.

GET A MOVE ON

HNG2
KNG1

To leave very fast; to hurry away.
See also hustle, light a shuck.

GIDDAP

EGR3
RNG3
SGR1
KNG1
DGNR2
LGNR1
HNG2

A call to horses to make them go.
Kurath (65): "The call get up (in various pronunciations), chirping, and clucking are in rather general use throughout the Eastern States, but there are also a number of regional expressions."
ADD citations from SW Pa. and N W.Va.

GIRT

EGR3
KNG1
SGR1
LGNR1
RNG3
HNG2

A saddle girth.
NED citations from 1563.
ADD citations from SE Va., SE Mo., NW Ark., E Ala., and W Ga.
See also cinch.

GOBBLE, GOBBLE

RGR2

A call to turkeys.

GOBLIN

SGR1
RNG3

A ghost.
NED citations from 1327.
ADD citations from Ind.
See also hant.

GOOBERS
EGR3
KNG1
RNG3
DGNR2
HNG2
RGR2

Peanuts. (Old-fashioned)
DAE: American origin, South and Southwest.
NED citations in U.S. from 1885.
ADD citations from Ark., SE Mo., and W N.C.
See also peanuts.

GRANDMA
EGR3
HNG2
RNG3
LGNR1
DGNR2
SGR1

Grandmother.
NED: "A colloq. synonym of grandmother."
ADD citations from 1862. (Sometimes the form was gran mom or granmaw.)

GRANDMAMA
RGR2

Same as grandma.

GRANDPA
LGNR1
DGNR2
SGR1
EGR3
HNG2
RNG3

Grandfather.
ADD citations from Texas, W N.C., and E Tenn.

GRANDPAPA
RGR2

Same as grandpa.

GRANNY
LGNR1

A midwife.
Kurath (77): "...everywhere south of Pennsylvania the common folk still say granny or granny woman."
DAE: American origin.
NED citations from 1794.
ADD citations from SW Mo.

GRANNY WOMAN
HNG2

Same as granny.
ADD citations from W N.C., E Tenn., and NE Ky.
See also granny.

GRASS SACK
SGR1
HNG2
KNG1

A large sack made of burlap.
Kurath (56): "...grass sack is current on the coast from Delaware Bay to Albemarle Sound and also on the Western Shore of Chesapeake Bay north of the James River."
See also tow sack.

GREASER
DGNR2
HNG2

A derogatory term for a Mexican.
DAE: American origin.
NED: U.S. slang. A contemptuous term used by Americans in the SW U.S. in speaking of Mexicans. Citations from 1849.
ADD citations from NW Ark. and N.Y. (It is a book word in N.Y.)

GREEN BEANS
DGNR2
SGR1

Beans cooked and served in the pod. (One informant says this term is German dialect translated.)
Kurath (73): "Green-beans dominates the mountains of N.C. and all of W.Va., and it is still common on the upper Ohio and its tributaries."
ADD citations from NE Ky. and Fla.
See also snap beans, string beans.

GRINDSTONE
DGNR2
LGNR1
SGR1
RGR2
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3
RNG3

A stone for sharpening metal instruments.

GRITTED BREAD
KNG1

An old-fashioned type of cornbread.
DAE: American origin. "Cornbread made of gritted meal."
See also corn pone, spoon bread, cornbread.

GROUND SQUIRREL
EGR3
HNG2
RGR2
SGR1
LGNR1

A chipmunk.
Kurath (15): "...ground squirrel is shared by the Midland and the South as an old folk term, but chipmunk has largely replaced it in Eastern Pennsylvania and has spread to Maryland and the lower Shenandoah."

GROUND SQUIRREL (Cont'd)

DGNR2
RNG3

DAE: American origin.
NED citations from 1772 in the U.S.

GULLY

DGNR2
RGR2
EGR3

A dry creek bed.
See also draw.

GULLY-WASHER

HNG2
RNG3

A very heavy rain.
ADD citations from SW Mo., NW Ark., SW Ind., and Va.
See also cloudburst.

GUTTER

LGNR1
DGNR2
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
SGR1
RGR2
RNG3

A trough to take rainwater off the roof.
Kurath (53): "Gutters is in regular use on all social levels (1) in the Southern area, (2) in the Hudson Valley, Long Island, and nearly all of New Jersey, and (3) in Eastern New England. In southwestern Connecticut and in Philadelphia and vicinity gutters is now very common, but older regional expressions are still used by many. Elsewhere gutters is strictly a trade name."

HACKAMORE

EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
LGNR1
DGNR2
SGR1
RNG3

A rope halter.
WD: Western U.S.
DAE: American origin, SW and W.
NED: U.S. "A corruption of Spanish jaquima, formerly xaquima, meaning halter or head-stall of a horse." Citations from 1889.
See also hickamore.

HANT

HNG2

A ghost.
Ling. Atlas: In use in Va. and N.C. and shades into S.C. east of the mountains.
See also goblin.

HARMONICA
DGNR2
A musical instrument played with the lips. (Modern) Ling. Atlas: Used in New England, Hudson Valley, New York City, and Newark area.
See also French harp.

HARROW
SGR1
KNG1
HNG2
DGNR2
RGR2
An implement for leveling off newly plowed ground.

HAUNCHES
RGR2
DGNR2
RNG3
The hips or hindquarters.
See also haunkers, hunkers.

HAUNKERS
HNG2
SGR1
Same as above.
See also haunches, hunkers.

HAYSEED
SGR1
A poor white person; a rustic; a person from the back country.
DAE: American origin. Colloq.
NED: "Humorous name for a rustic." Citations from 1889.
ADD citations from N. Mex.

HEADCHEESE
EGR3
KNG1
RGR2
DGNR2
A pressed meat loaf made of hog's jowls.
DAE: American origin.
Kurath (20): "Eastern New England is characterized by many local expressions that have to do with the farm.... Distinctive food terms are ...hogshead cheese...."
See also hogshead cheese, souse, silza.

HELL
LGNR1
A mild expression of disgust.

HEN
SGR1
A jocular term for my wife.
See also boss, madam, old lady.

HEN HOUSE
RNG3

A building for housing chickens.
NED: "A small house or shed in which poultry are shut up for the night." Citations from 1512.
See also chicken house, chicken roost.

HI
DGNR2

A greeting. (Used by a young informant.)
NED citations from 1475.

HICK
SGR1

A poor white person from the backwoods.
NED citations from 1565. "An ignorant country man; a silly fellow, booby."
ADD citations from Neb. and W Cent. W. Va.
See also Arkansawyer, cedar cutter, hillbilly, hayseed.

HICKAMORE
DGNR2

A rope halter.
See also hackamore.

HIGHBOY
EGR3

A chest of drawers.
DAE: American origin. "A tall chest of drawers...."
See also dresser, bureau, chifferobe.

HILLBILLY
DGNR2

A poor white.
DAE: An expression of contempt used in the South when speaking of an ignorant person.
See also Arkansawyer, cedar cutter, hayseed, hick.

HIMMEL
RGR2

A mild expression of disgust. (Used only by a German informant.)

HOCK, IN
LGNR1

In jail.
DAE: "In jail or prison."
See also batcage, jug, clink, calaboose, free boarding house, hoosegow.

HOECAKE
KNG1

A kind of cornbread made with water and fried on a griddle. (Old fashioned)
DAE: American origin; chiefly Southern.
Kurath (39): "From Chesapeake Bay to the western parts of Virginia and the Carolinas...hoecake

HOECAKE (Cont'd)

is used or remembered as a word for hand-shaped corn cakes baked before an open fire."
NED: "Originally a cake baked on the broad thin blade of a cotton-field hoe." Citations from 1793.
ADD citations from 1775.
See also corn pone, spoon bread, cornbread, corncake, and gritted bread.

HOGPEN

DGNR2
EGR3

An enclosure where hogs are kept.
See also pig pen and pigsty.

HOGSHEAD CHEESE

LGNR1
RNG3

A pressed meat loaf made of hog's jowl.
Kurath (20): "Eastern New England is characterized by many local expressions that have to do with the farm...cooking.... Distinctive food terms are...hogshead cheese...."
DAE: American origin.
See also headcheese, souse.

HOLLER

HNG2
DGNR2
KNG1

A dry creek bed.
See also draw, gully.

HOLLOW

RNG3

A dry creek bed.
NED: Depressed below the surrounding surface. Citations from 1553.
See also draw, gully, holler.

HONE

DGNR2

A whetstone for sharpening razors.
NED citations from 1325.

HORN TOAD

HNG2

A flat, lizard-like animal with horns. It is common in Texas.
DAE: American origin.
NED: A toad having head and back covered with spikes. (U.S.) Citations from 1841 [horned frog].

HORSE LOT
DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3
SGR1
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3

A pen for horses.
DAE: American origin.
See also corral, horse pen.

HORSE PEN
RGR2

An enclosure for horses.
See also horse lot, corral.

HORSESHOES
RNG3
SGR1
HNG2
KNG1
LGNR1
DGNR2
EGR3

A game of quoits.
NED: "The game of quoits." Citations from 1825.

HOT CAKE
EGR3
KNG1
SGR1
RNG3

A griddle cake.
Kurath (69): "Hot cake is largely confined to Delaware Bay and Delaware Valley in Pennsylvania."
ADD citations from NW Ark., SE N.H., W N.Y., Neb., Wis., and SW Pa.
See also battercake, pancake.

HOWDY
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
LGNR1
RGR2
RNG3

A greeting.
NED citations of related forms from c.1600.
ADD citations from Ky., Miss., SE Mo., Cent. Conn., W.Va., W N.C., and E Tenn.

HUNKERS
EGR3
LGNR1

Haunches. (Old-fashioned)
ADD citations from Md., W N.C., E Tenn., Kans., Pa., NW Ark., W Texas, and N W.Va.
NED citations from 1785.
See also haunkers, haunches.

HYDRANT

DGNR2
RGR2
EGR3

A device for turning on water, usually outside the house.
DAE: American origin.
NED citations from 1828 in U.S.

ILLEGITIMATE CHILD

DGNR2
EGR3
RNG3
HNG2

A child born out of wedlock.
Kurath (77): "The neutral expression illegitimate child and the blunt term bastard are known and used everywhere."
NED citations from 1536.
See also woods colt.

JACKASS

KNG1

A donkey.
DAE citations from 1786.
NED citations from 1727.

JUG

RGR2
SGR1
RNG3

A jocular term for jail.
DAE citations from 1815.
NED citations from 1841.
See also clink, hock, batcage, calaboose, free boarding house, hoosegow.

JUNK ROOM

RNG3
DGNR2
LGNR1
HNG2

A room for storing disused articles.
Kurath (52): "In the South Atlantic States we find a variety of terms to denote a storage room: lumber room, plunder room, trumpery room, junk room, and catch-all.... Junk room is in use also in the Pennsylvania settlements of the Piedmont of North Carolina and on the Cape Fear River by the side of plunder room."

KERNEL

SGR1

The hard center of a peach.
ADD citations from SE Va.

KEROSENE

LGNR1
DGNR2
RNG3

A fuel oil which was originally made of shale, but is now a petroleum product.
Kurath (60): Kerosene is in general use in the North and in the Carolinas."
ADD citations from S.C., W.Va., N.Y., C. and SE N.H.
NED citations from 1854.
See also coal oil.

KETTLE
RNG3

A pan or pot for boiling or stewing.
DAE citations from 1506.
NED citations from 1350.
ADD citations from E Mass., N.Eng., W.Va., Neb., NW Ark., N.Y., and Ohio.
See also pan, pot.

KINDLING
EGR3
KNG1
RGR2
LGNR1
DGNR2
SGR1
RNG3
HNG2

Small pieces of wood used to start a fire.
DAE citations from 1839.
Kurath (51): "The Philadelphia area has kindling (wood) by the side of pine, and this expression is in general use in Maryland west of Chesapeake Bay."

KINFOLKS
EGR3
SGR1

Relatives.
ADD citations from Miss., SE Mo., W N.C., E Tenn., NW Ark., Cent. N.Y., and the South.

KIPPERED
DGNR2

Milk that is beginning to sour. (Old-fashioned)
See also clabber, blinky, blue john.

LAKE
KNG1
DGNR2
RNG3

A pool or pond where livestock are watered.
See also pond, dirt tank, rock tank, tank.

LAND

A mild expression of disgust.
ADD: Used in combinations such as land sakes and goodland in Mass., E Ala., W Ga., and Ark.
DAE citations from 1825.
NED citations from 1849.

LANDSTORM
RGR2

A slow rain, not accompanied by electrical display. (Given by a German informant.)

LARIAT

A rope with a loop; it is used for roping animals.

LARIAT (Cont'd)

HNG2
RNG3
SGR1
LGNR1
DGNR2
KNG1

(One informant said that it was a lariat only if made of rawhide.)

WD: Western U.S.
DAE: American origin.
Barcia: "The act of roping or tying one person behind another, or to tie a bridle on a mule, or to lead one down the highway."
NED: The Spanish word la reata means a cord or rope with a noose used in catching wild horses. Citations from 1835.
See also roping rope, lasso.

LASSO

DGNR2
RGR2

A rope with a loop used to catch animals.
DAE citations from 1833.
Barcia: "A snare for game."
NED citations from 1768. Used chiefly by Spanish-Americans.
See also lariat, roping rope.

LAW ME

DGNR2

A mild expression of disgust.
ADD citations from N.Eng., S Ill., S Ind., S Ohio, Ark., Va., N.C., Neb., SW Mo., Cent. Ky., and W.Va.
NED citations of law as interjection from 1588.

LAY

RNG3
SGR1
RGR2

To stop blowing--as, "the wind is laying."

LEGGINS

EGR3
SGR1
RGR2
HNG2
LGNR1
KNG1

Leather leg coverings that reach to the waist.
DAE citations from 1751.
NED citations from 1763.
See also chaps.

LIGHT A SHUCK

KNG1
EGR3
LGNR1

To leave very fast.
ADD citations from NW Ark., N Cent. N.C., Okla., etc.
See also take off.

LIGHTBREAD

RNG3
KNG1
EGR3
RGR2
HNG2
DGNR2
LGNR1

Raised bread baked in a loaf.
Kurath (39): "In the South and South Midland, lightbread is the usual designation."
DAE: American origin.
ADD citations from Ark., W Fla., SE Va., Cent. Kans., Ky., and W Cent. W.Va.

LIGHTNING BUG

RNG3
LGNR1
DGNR2
EGR3
HNG2
KNG1
SGR1
RGR2

A bug that glows at night.
Kurath (17): "In New York State, as in Vermont, lightning bug, our national term, has largely eliminated fire fly."
DAE: American origin.
NED citations from 1806.

LIMA BEANS

DGNR2
HNG2
SGR1
LGNR1
KNG1

Large flat beans.
WD: Large flat beans, usually white.
DAE citations from 1822.
ADD citations from E W.Va., E Tenn., and W N.C.
See also butter beans.

LITTLE PIECE

HNG2
LGNR1
KNG1
RNG3
DGNR2

A short distance.
ADD citations from S Ill., NW Ark., SW Va., Kans., SE W.Va., and SW Pa.
See also little ways.

LITTLE WAYS

RGR2

A short distance.
Kurath (66): "A little ways is an utterance one hears in all the Eastern states. In the greater part of the Midland, however, many are more apt to say a little piece."
ADD citations from Ga. and Cent. Conn.
See also little piece.

LIVING ROOM

A room at the front of the house where one receives guests. (Modern)

LIVING ROOM (Cont'd)

DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3
SGR1
EGR3
RGR2

Kurath (51): "Living room is fully established in the cities and among the younger generation in the country."
DAE: American origin; citations from 1825.
See also sitting room, front room, parlor.

LOAD

SGR1
KNG1
EGR3
RNG3
RGR2
HNG2

That which can be carried at one time in the arms or in a wagon.
Kurath (38): "...by the side of the Midland load of wood."
See also armload.

LOFT

RGR2
HNG2

The unfinished space at the top of the house.
WD: "An attic room."
DAE: This meaning "Obs. except U.S."
NED citations from 1300.
ADD citations from SW Va. and Cent. N.Y.
See also attic.

LOOK LIKE

LGNR1
DGNR2

To resemble.
NED citations from 1440.
See also favor.

LOT

RNG3
LGNR1

A barnyard.
Kurath (40): "...barnlot, stablelot are the usual terms for the barnyard, and these expressions are current in all of the South Midland, as well as in parts of northern West Virginia...."
See also barnyard, barnlot.

LOW

LGNR1

A noise made by a cow.
Kurath (62): "...the usual expression from Baltimore southward is low.
NED citations from 1000.
ADD citations from SE Mo., Maine, and N.H.
See also bawl.

LUG
DGNR2
To carry a load.
WD: "To haul or drag along." Colloq.
ADD citations from N.Y., Mo., Ark., and NW U.S.
NED citations from 1690.
Ling. Atlas: New England, Hudson Valley, N.J., Del., Md. (all except eastern part), and a few scattered areas near Norfolk. The usual Southern term is tote.

LUNCH
EGR3
HNG2
Food eaten between meals.
WD: "A light meal, usually in the middle of the day."
NED citations from 1829.

LUNCH BASKET
DGNR2
SGR1
A metal container for carrying lunch.
DAE: Lunch may be used attributively with box, basket, bell, etc.
See also lunch box, lunch bucket, lunch pail.

LUNCH BOX
RNG3
A metal container for carrying lunch or dinner.
DAE citations from 1864.
See also lunch basket, lunch bucket, lunch pail.

LUNCH BUCKET
DGNR2
RNG3
A metal container for carrying lunch. (Old-fashioned)
See also lunch basket, lunch box, lunch pail.

LUNCH PAIL
KNG1
EGR3
A metal container for carrying lunch. (Rustic)
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1891.

MA
SGR1
HNG2
An expression for mother. (Old-fashioned)
WD: "Mama;--a colloq. or childish form; sometimes regarded as vulgar."
ADD citations from Va., Ill., Miss., W U.S., and N Ga.
NED: Childish and colloq. of mama; now considered vulgar. Citations from 1823.

MAD
RNG3
EGR3
Angry.
WD: "Angry temper.... Colloq. and dial."
DAE: Citations from 1758.

MAD (Cont'd)

KNG1
RGR2
LGNR1
DGNR2

ADD citations from Cent. Ky.
NED: In U.S. and Great Britain the ordinary word for angry. Citations from 1300.

MADAM

DGNR2
EGR3

A jocular term for wife.
DAE: It has two meanings which are extreme contrasts: (1) a respectful title given a woman and (2) a term to designate the "mistress of a house."
NED: Obs. as playful use. Citations from 1603.
See also old lady, old woman, hen, boss, mom.

MALE

RNG3
KNG1

A bull.
Kurath (62): "New England expressions for bull are: ...male animal.... Southernisms are equally varied: male and male cow in Virginia, adjoining parts of North Carolina and on Delamarvia...."
ADD citations from SW Mo.
See also surly, bull.

MAMA

LGNR1
DGNR2
RNG3

A term for mother.
WD: "Mother;--now usually a child's word."
ADD citations from N.Y. and N.H. (a schoolroom word).
NED citations from 1579. In the 18th century in England it was a mark of gentility.
See also ma.

MANTEL

RGR2
EGR3
SGR1
DGNR2
RNG3

A shelf over the fireplace.
Kurath (51): "The shelf over the fireplace is known as the mantel or mantelpiece in most parts of the Eastern States."
NED citations from 1519.
See also mantel board, mantelpiece, fireboard.

MANTELBOARD

LGNR1

A shelf over the fireplace.
NED citations from 1885.
See also mantel, mantelpiece, fireboard.

MANTELPIECE
DGNR2
KNG1

A shelf over the fireplace.
NED citations from 1686.
See also mantel, mantelboard, fireboard.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
RNG3
DGNR2
SGR1
LGNR1
RGR2

A greeting on Christmas.
Kurath (80): "In the North and in most of the North Midland Merry Christmas! is the universal salutation, and this expression is now freely used by the younger generation in the South and South Midland, especially in the urban areas. The simple folk of the South and South Midland still say Christmas gift!"
See also Christmas gift.

MESS
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2

A quantity of a certain food for a meal.
WD: "A quantity of food...." (Archaic)
DAE: "Now dial. and U.S." Citations from 1697.
NED: Archaic. Citations from 1300.

MEXICAN
RNG3

A person from Mexico or one of Mexican descent.
DAE: American origin. Denotes the Spanish-speaking population of the SW.
See also pelado, greaser, pepper belly.

MEXICAN SADDLE
RGR2
LGNR1
RNG3

A type of saddle having a large horn.
DAE: American origin. This is a heavy saddle, which has a high pommel and cantle, heavy leather skirts, and wooden stirrups.
See also cowboy saddle, California saddle, Dutch saddle, side saddle.

MICKEY
SGR1

An Irishman.
See also Patty.

MIDWIFE
HNG1
DGNR2
RNG3
EGR3

A woman who helps to deliver a baby.
Kurath (77): "Midwife is used throughout the Eastern States, but in the central section of Pennsylvania and everywhere south of Pennsylvania the common folk still say granny or granny woman."
NED citations from 1303.
See also granny, granny woman.

MIGHT CAN — Might be able.
KNG1 — ADD citations from E Ala., W Ga., SW Pa., E Texas, and Miss.

MILK PAIL — A metal container for milk.
HNG2 — Kurath (12): "Pail is the regular name throughout the North for the well-known container with flaring sides and bail."

MISER — A stingy person.
DGNR2 — NED citations from 1560.
See also tightwad.

MOM — A jocular term for wife.
LGNR1 — See also old hen, boss, madam, old lady, old woman.

MONGREL — A worthless dog.
RNG3 — WD: Any animal of mixed origin.
RGR2 — NED citations from 1486.

MOO — The noise made by a cow.
LGNR1
DGNR2 — Kurath (38): "In all the Southern area cows are said to low at feeding time. Moo is not unknown, to be sure, but it is largely confined to city folk."
NED citations from 1789.
Atwood Map: Moo is predominant in Texas, low next, and bawl is most infrequent.
See also low, bawl.

MORRAL — A feed bag attached to a horse's head.
DGNR2
LGNR1
EGR3
SGR1
RNG3
RGR2
HNG2
KNG1 — ADD citations from W Texas.
Atwood Map: Morral is predominant west of a vertical line drawn through Bosque, Travis, and Jim Wells counties. Feed bag is used in the same area, as well as in East Texas.

MOSQUITO HAWK — A dragon fly.

MOSQUITO HAWK (Cont'd)
LGNR1
EGR3
KNG1

Kurath (75): "Mosquito hawk occurs along the coast in a widening belt extending from Delaware Bay to Ga."
DAE: American origin.
NED citations from 1894 (U.S.).

MOSSBACK
RGR2

A poor white; a rustic.
DAE: "A person who is behind the times." Colloq.
NED citations from 1885 (U.S.).
See also Arkansawyer, hill billy, cedar cutter.

MUD DAUBER
RGR2

A kind of wasp.
WD: "Any of numerous wasps...that construct cells attached to stones or woodwork of buildings."
DAE: Any of various wasps that construct their cells of mud. American origin.

MUFFIN
HNG2
LGNR1
DGNR2

A small cake.
DAE: "A kind of bread made with baking powder or similar agent and baked in the form of a cup-cake." Citations from 1703.
NED citations from 1703.

MUSTANG
SGR1

An unbroken horse.
WD: "A small, hardy, half-wild horse of Texas, N. Mex., etc."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1808.
Appleton's New Eng-Sp; Sp-Eng Dictionary: An unowned colt or vagabond.
Cuyas: Comes from the word mostrenco, which means homeless, unowned, strayed, or vagabond, or a troop of young mares and colts.
NED citations from 1808.

MUTTER
RGR2

A term for wife. (Given by a German informant as Ger. dial. for mother.)
See also boss, old woman, old lady, madam, mom, mama, ma.

NEAR HORSE
LGNR1
HNG2
KNG1

A horse on the left side.
Kurath (66): "The left horse of (plow) team is known as the near-horse in a large area extending from the Conn. River to the Potomac

NEAR HORSE (Cont'd)
SGR1

and the Kanawha, excepting only the SW half of Pennsylvania."

NECKLACE
LGNR1
RNG3

A string of pearls.
NED citations from 1590.
See also pair of pearls, string of pearls.

NEGRO
EGR3
HNG2
RNG3

A respectful term for a person of African origin.
DAE citations from 1653.
NED citations from 1555.

NEIGH
SGR1

A noise made by a horse when calling for young or mate.
ADD citations from SW Mo., N.C., E Ala., and W Ga.
NED citations from 1513.
See also nicker.

NICKER
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
EGR3

A gentle noise made by a horse at feeding time.
Kurath (42): "The South has two expressions for the friendly noise of a horse at feeding time, whicker and nicker.... From the Piedmont nicker has spread westward all the way to the Ohio Valley, northward to the fork of the Ohio in Pennsylvania and southward in the Blue Ridge and the Appalachians to Ga. Nicker now dominates this vast area."
ADD citations from E Ala., W Ga., W Ind., SW Mo., Cent. Ky., SE W.Va., Cent. N.Y., Cent. Pa., W U.S.
NED citations from 1791.
See also neigh.

NIGGER
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
DGNR2
SGR1
RNG3

A derogatory term for Negro.
DAE: Colloq. and Southern for Negro. Citations from 1700.
NED citations from 1786. Usually contemptuous.
See also darkey, coon.

NIGGER SHOOTER

EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
LGNR1
SGR1
DGNR2
RNG2

A boy's weapon made of rubber strips on a forked stick.
DAE: A sling shot (colloq.). Citations from 1883.
Atwood Map: Predominant term in Texas for a boy's weapon.

NO ACCOUNT

DGNR2

Lazy.
DAE: American origin (colloq.). Citations from 1845.
ADD citations from Ga., Ark., SE Mo., N Eng., E Texas, and W. Va.

NORTHER

RNG3
DGNR2
LGNR1
SGR1
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3

A cold, strong wind from the north.
WD: A wind, characteristic of Texas and the Coastal plains.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1820.
NED citations from 1844.
See also blue norther.

OFF

LGNR1

I want off work today.
NED: Many citations of off without a verb.

OFF HORSE

RNG3
DGNR2
RGR2

The left horse in a team.
DAE: American origin. "The right hand beast."
See also near horse.

OLD LADY

LGNR1

A jocular term for my wife.
DAE: A man's wife (colloq.). Citations from 1873.
See also hen, madam, boss, mutter, ma, mama, old woman.

OLD MAN

LGNR1

A jocular term for my husband.
DAE: "A father or head of the family." Citations from 1792.

OLD MAN (Cont'd)

NED citations from 1200.
ADD citations from SE Ky., E Ala., W Ga., La., and N.C.

OLD SATAN

KNG1

The devil.

ONERY

LGNR1
KNG1

Lazy, unambitious.
DAE: Dial., equivalent to ornery. Citations from
ADD citations from Ala., Calif., Ark., Md., NW Ark., W Texas, Miss., and W.Va.

ORPHAN

RGR2
DGNR2

A motherless calf.
NED: "One bereft of protection...." Citations from 1483.
See also dogie, orphant.

ORPHANT

HNG2

A motherless calf.
See also dogie, orphan.

ORTN'T

KNG1

He oughtn't to go.
ADD citations from Mass., W N.C., Ohio, and Texas.

OVERALLS

EGR3
KNG1
RNG3
SGR1
DGNR2
LGNR1
RGR2
HNG2

An outer working garment.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1807.
NED: Trousers of strong material worn as outer garment. Orig. U.S. Citations from 1782.
See also blue jeans, dungarees.

PA

HNG2
SGR1

A term for father.
WD: "Papa;--a colloq. or childish form; sometimes regarded as vulgar."
NED: Childish; short for papa. Citations from 1811.
See also papa, father.

PACK
LGNR1
KNG1
To lug or carry.
WD: To transport in a pack, as on the back of a man or animal; hence to carry. Chiefly W U.S.
NED citations of this meaning from 1850.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1816.
Ling. Atlas: In use in W.Va., S Ohio, and SW corner of Pa.

PACK SADDLE
LGNR1
A type of saddle.
See also Mexican, side, Dutch, Eastern.

PADDOCK
SGR1
A pen for thoroughbred horses.
NED citations from 1856.
See also corral, horse lot, horse pen.

PAINT
RNG3
LGNR1
SGR1
RGR2
HNG2
A spotted pony.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1893.
ADD citations from W U.S.

PAIR OF PEARLS
DGNR2
A string of pearls.
NED citations from 1377.
ADD citations from SW Mo., NW Ark., Iowa, Ore., and Mich.

PALING FENCE
KNG1
HNG2
EGR3
A type of fence made of boards or pickets.
Kurath (55): "Fences with pointed or upright slats which commonly surround the dwelling and the garden are known...as paling fences, paled fences, or simply as palings in the Midland and the Southern area."
NED citations from 1469.
ADD citations from W N.C. and E Tenn.
See also picket fence.

PALLET
EGR3
RGR2
RNG3
A bed made on the floor.
Kurath (61): "Pallet is the regular name of an improvised bed on the floor throughout the Southern area and in the South Midland."

PALLET (Cont'd)
HNG2
SGR1
DGNR2
LGNR1
KNG1

NED citations from 1374.
ADD citations from Ill., N.C., Tenn., Ala., S.C., Ga., Texas, and Miss.

PAN
RNG3
DGNR2

A utensil for stewing or boiling.
WD: "A metal or earthenware vessel for domestic uses."
NED citations from 897.
ADD citation from E Texas (Negro).
See also pot.

PANAS [panəs]
SCRAPPLE
(ponhaus)
RGR2

A food made of meat and bread. (Given by a German informant.)
ADD citations from W Md., Pa., SW Wis., W.Va., and Va.
Kurath (32): "Ponhaws, a synonym of (Philadelphia) scrapple, is in use from the Pennsylvania German section westward to Ohio and has survived also on the upper reaches of the Potomac in Maryland and West Virginia. The Pennsylvania German ponhows corresponds phonetically to a Standard German Pfannhase, which literally means pan rabbit."

PANCAKE
HNG2

A griddle cake. (A thin flat cake cooked on a griddle and served with butter and syrup.)
Kurath (69): "For a thin wheat cake cooked on a griddle or in a pan the term pancake is current in all the Eastern States, but with varying frequency."
NED citations from 1430.
ADD citations from Cent. Va., SE N.H., N.Y., Ky., Fla., and W.Va.
See also flapjack, hotcake.

PANCAKE PUDDING
RGR2

A confection made of left-over pancakes. (Given by a German informant who said this was one of their favorite German dishes.)

PANTRY
RNG3

A storage room for kitchen wares and food.
WD: "A room or closet where bread and other provi-

PANTRY (Cont'd)

SGR1
EGR3
DGNR2
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2

sions are kept."
NED citations from 1300.
Kurath (17): "On Narragansett Bay closet is the old term, north of Boston pantry."

PAPA

EGR3
RNG3
RGR2
LGNR1

A term for father.
WD: "Father;--now chiefly a child's word."
NED: "This word was introduced into England from France. At first it was considered courtly and polite; it was used by adults and was thought genteel for a long time. More and more it was left to children and by the second half of the 19th century it was abandoned even by them." Citations from 1681.
ADD citations from SE N.H., E Ala., W Ga., and E Texas.

PAPER SACK

RGR2

A paper bag.
Kurath (56): "Paper bag and paper sack are both widely used in the Eastern States."
See also bag.

PARLOR

RNG3

A room at the front of the house where guests are entertained. (Old-fashioned)
Kurath (51): "Only the larger houses have (or had) a bestroom for formal occasions such as weddings, funerals, and the reception of honored guests, which is known as the parlor from Maine to the Carolinas. The old-time parlor is largely a thing of the past."
NED citations from 1374.
See also living room, sitting room, front room.

PATCH

RNG3

A plot of ground where cotton or other crops are raised.
DAE: This meaning of American origin. Citations from 1653.
ADD citations from SE Va., S.C., NE Ala., NW Ark., W N.C., E Tenn., Ga., and Miss.

PATTY

A nickname for an Irishman.

PATTY (Cont'd)
LGNR1
HNG2
KNG1

DAE: Paddy is a nickname for an Irishman. Citations from 1784.
See also Mickey.

PAVED ROAD
DGNR2
SGR1

A cement or hard-surfaced road.
See also highway.

PEANUTS
SGR1
EGR3
KNG1
RGR2
DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3

Well known American crop; "nuts" are dug from the ground.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1807.
NED: "...plant itself, is a native of the West Indies and West Africa...." Citations from 1835.
See also goobers.

PECAN CANDY
HNG2

A round flat patty of candy containing pecans.
See also pecan patty, praline, peloncillo.

PECAN GROVE
RGR2

A thick growth of pecan trees.

PECAN PATTY
EGR3
KNG1

A round flat piece of pecan candy.
See also pecan candy, praline, peloncillo.

PECKERWOOD
LGNR1
KNG1

A woodpecker.
Kurath (74): "The variant peckerwood is the folk speech of the Virginia Piedmont and can be heard also in the mountains of N.C."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1859.
ADD citations from Tenn., Miss., W N.C., W Texas, Cent. W U.S., and Ky. (Metathesis)
See also woodpecker.

PELADO [pə'laʊ]
RGR2

A derogatory term for Mexican.
Velázquez: Past part. of pelar meaning hairless; it can mean a bald head. Colloq., it means

PELADO [p 1] (Cont'd)

to be penniless or a nobody.
DAE: American origin. In the SW (Sp), it means a penniless person or a nobody. Citations from 1848.
See also pila .

PEPPER BELLY

LGNR1
KNG1

A derogatory term for a Mexican.
See also greaser, pelado, pila .

PERSPIRE

RNG3

To sweat.
NED citations from 1725.
ADD citations from E Ala., W Ga., Cent. N.Y., and W.Va.

PICKET FENCE

RGR2
EGR3
RNG3
SGR1
KNG1
HNG2
DGNR2
LGNR1

A fence made of pickets or small cedar poles.
Kurath (55): "Picket fence appears as a modern term in large parts of the Midland and the South, especially in the Ohio Valley, on Chesapeake Bay, in northeastern North Carolina, and in the Charleston area."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1800.
ADD citations from the S Appalachians.
See also paling fence.

PIECE, A LITTLE

KNG1

A little way.
Kurath (29): "Instead of a little way...the Midland has the expression a little piece."
DAE citations from 1612.
NED: Dial. Citations from 1612.
ADD citations from N W.Va., SW Mo., Maine, N.C., Cent. Ky., Ga., Fla., Ark., Ohio, and Ill.

PIG PEN

HNG2
RNG3
DGNR2
KNG1
LGNR1

An outside enclosure for pigs.
Kurath (21): "Western New England has only hog-house, hog pen, or pig pen, which compete with sty in Eastern New England."
DAE citations from 1803.
See also pig sty, hog pen.

PIG STY

An enclosure for pigs.

PIG STY (Cont'd)

SGR1

Kurath (21): "Sty, pig sty, hog sty are fairly common in coastal New England, less so in the Connecticut Valley."
DAE: "A pig pen with a covered shelter"; not American origin. Citations from 1809.
NED citations from 1591.

PILAU

KNG1
SGR1

A term for a worthless or low class Mexican. (Used by white people in derision.)
See also pelado, greaser, pepper belly.

PILON

KNG1
HNG2
RNG3
EGR3
SGR1
LGNR1
DGNR2
RGR2

A bonus or gift given with a purchase or when a bill or wages are paid. (Usually candy.)
WD: "A gratuity given by tradesmen to customers settling their accounts. Southwestern U.S."
DAE: American origin. "Any little trifle thrown in.... It is always insisted upon by the poor along the Rio Grande." Citations from 1883.
Barcia: A loaf of sugar.
Atwood Map: Central, South, and West Texas.

PILONCILLO

SGR1

A type of candy made of unrefined sugar in Mexico.
DAE: American origin. In the SW (Sp), "A cone or stick made of brown sugar." Citations from 1844.
Barcia: A little loaf of sugar.

PINTO

EGR3
KNG1

An Indian pony.
WD: In Mexico an Indian having a mottled or speckled skin as a result of disease. "A piebald or calico horse or pony."
DAE: American origin. In the SW (Sp) a piebald horse. Citations from 1872.
ADD citations from Calif., N Cent. Neb., NE Ore., and the West.
See also paint.

PINTOS

RGN2
HNG2
EGR3
KNG1
SGR1
LGNR1

A type of beans that are brown and white speckled before being cooked, but brown after cooking.
See also frijoles.

PINTOS (Cont'd)

DGNR2
RNG3

PIT

KNG1
LGNR1

The hard center of a cherry.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1848.
NED citations from 1841.
See also seed, kernel, stone.

PITCH

RNG3
EGR3
DGNR2
LGNR1
HNG2
KNG1
RGR2

To try to throw the rider.
DAE citations from 1865.
NED citations from 1849.
See also buck.

PLATEAU

DGNR2
RGR2

A high flat stretch of land.
See also divide.

PLAYED OUT

HNG2
RNG3

Exhausted, tired.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1859.
See also pooped out, tired out.

PLUNDER

LGNR1
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2

Household goods.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1805.
NED citations from 1817.
ADD citations from S Ind., S Ill., S Ohio, SE Va., SE Mo., NW Ark., SW Maine, Cent. Ky., Tenn. mts., and W.Va.
Kurath (42): "In the Carolinas plunder room predominates, a term that has also a degree of currency in Virginia."

POISON IVY

RGR2
RNG3
SGR1
EGR3
DGNR2

A vine that grows up a tree.
DAE: American origin. "Any of several vinelike sumacs, poisonous to the touch." Citations from 1784.
See also poison oak.

POISON OAK
RGR2
KNG1
SGR1
HNG2
LGNR1
DGNR2
RNG3

A bush that is poisonous to the touch.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1807.
See also poison ivy.

POKE OF WOOD
DGNR2

An armful of wood. (Given by an old-fashioned speaker.)
See also armful, armload.

POLE CAT
RGR2
KNG1
LGNR1

A skunk. (Old-fashioned)
DAE: This meaning of American origin. Citations from 1688.
NED citations from 1320.
ADD citations from W.Va., Fla., and N W.Va.
See also skunk.

POND
RGR2
SGR1
RNG3

A pool where livestock are watered.
See also dirt tank, rock tank, tank, lake.

POOPED OUT
DGNR2

Tired or exhausted. (Modern)
ADD citations from E U.S. and Ky.
See also played out, tired.

POOR WHITE TRASH
LGNR1

A poor white or rustic.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1833.
ADD citations from Miss., SE Mo., NW Ark., E Ala., W Ga., Cent. Ky., S.C., Va., N.C., and NW Miss.
See also Arkansawyer, cedar cutter, hayseed, hill billy.

PORCH
LGNR1
DGNR2
HNG2
RGR2
EGR3

A covered entrance to a house.
Kurath (52): "The screened porch and the sleeping porch are recent additions to man's comfort; they are known everywhere as porches. The unscreened porches of earlier days are also widely called porches."

PORCH (Cont'd)
KNG1
RNG3
SGR1

NED citations from 1290.
ADD citations from Mass., S Ill., and N.Y.
See also veranda, gallery.

POT
RNG3
DGNR2

A pan for stewing or boiling.
NED citations from 1200.
ADD citations from W N.C. and E Tenn.
See also pan, kettle.

PRAIRIE
DGNR2
KNG1
HNG2
SGR1
RGR2

A flat grassy land.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1773.
NED citations from 1682.
ADD citations from Miss., Ind., Ala., NE Ohio, SE Ga., Texas, W N.C., E Tenn., and N W.Va.
See also flats.

PRALINE
LGNR1
RGR2

A round flat sheet of pecan candy.
NED citations from 1727.
ADD citations from S La.
See also pecan patty, pecan candy.

PREACHER
RGR2
SGR1
LGNR1
DGNR2

See also the Reverend, Brother So-and-So.

PULLY BONE
RNG3
KNG1
HNG2
LGNR1

The forked bone on the breastbone of a chicken.
Kurath (63): "The usual Southern and South Midland expression is pully-bone, pull-bone."
ADD citations from Md., NW Ark., E Ala., W Ga., W Ind., SW Va., SW Mo., SW Pa., and N W.Va.
See also wish bone.

QUAK [kwak]

Milk that has soured and thickened. (Given by a German informant.)
See also clabber, curd.

QUARTER TILL

Fifteen minutes until the hour.

QUARTER TILL (Cont'd)

RNG3
HNG2
KNG1
DGNR2
EGR3

Kurath (51): "The greater part of the Southern area (Eastern Virginia, northeastern North Carolina, and the low country of South Carolina) has exclusively quarter to, the South Midland quarter till.... In the central part of Pennsylvania the characteristic Midland till is still common, but it is yielding ground in the east to of, which now predominates in Philadelphia and the southeastern part of the state; and in the Pittsburgh area of and to are gradually superseding till."

QUARTER TO

RGR2
SGR1

Same as above.

QUILT

SGR1
RNG2

A heavy bed cover.
NED citations from 1290.
See also comfort.

QUITE A WAY

RNG3

A little way.
See also little piece, little ways.

RACING SADDLE

KNG1
LGNR1
SGR1

A type of saddle.
See also cowboy, Mexican, Dutch, English, and California saddles.

RACKET STORE

DGNR2
LGNR1
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2

A variety store. (Old-fashioned term.)
ADD citations from NW Ark., SE Mo., SE Ohio, Kans., La., N.C., and W.Va.

RAIL FENCE

EGR3
RGR2

A zig-zag fence made of rails.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1649.
See also worm fence, stake and rider.

RAINTOAD
KNG1
A toad that croaks when it is going to rain.
See also toad frog.

RAINWORM
RGR2
EGR3
SGR1
RNG3
An earthworm. (Given by German informants only.)
Cassell: regenwurm, an earthworm.
NED citations from 1000.
Atwood Map: Jim Wells County.
See also fish worm, earthworm.

RAISE
LGNR1
DGNR2
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
SGR1
RNG3
EGR3
To bring up a family.
DAE: Became obsolete in England about 1800, but survived in the U.S. despite much comment, chiefly from British sources. Citations from 1762.
NED: Now chiefly U.S. Citations from 1744.
ADD citations from Ga., Va., W.Va., Mo., Ark., Fla., NE Ala.
See also reared.

RANCH HAND
EGR3
SGR1
A cowboy.
See also cowboy, cowhand, cowpoke, waddy.

RANCH HOUSE
DGNR2
The main ranch house.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1862.
See also headquarters.

REAR
RGR2
RNG3
To bring up children. (Modern)
NED citations from 1590.

RECIPE
EGR3
KNG1
See also resit.

RED BUG
EGR3
RGR2
LGNR1
RNG3
A small insect that supposedly bores into the skin --same as a chigger.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1827.
See also chigger.

RELATIVES
RGR2

The members of a family.
NED citations from 1657.
ADD citations from Cent. N.Y.
See also folks, kinfolks.

REMUDA
SGR1
RNG3
HNG2
LGNR1
DGNR2

A band or herd of saddle horses. (Old-fashioned)
DAE: American origin. Originally it meant "A bunch of saddle horses kept to supply remounts."
ADD citations from W Texas west of the Pecos.
Barcia: A change or replacement of horses.
See also string, caviard.

RESIT [rə'sit]
HNG2
KNG1

Directions for cooking.
ADD citations from E Ala., W Ga., Maine, and SE W.Va.
See also recipe.

REVEREND, THE
HNG2

A title for a local minister.
NED citations from 1485.
See also Brother So-and-So, preacher.

RIDGE
KNG1

A high flat land.
See also plateau.

RINCH
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
LGNR1
EGR3

To wash in clear water.
ADD citations from W N.C., E Tenn., NW Ark., SW Va., W N.C., Appalachians, Cent. Pa., Texas, and W.Va.
See also rinse.

RINSE
SGR1
DGNR2
LGNR1

To wash in clear water.
NED citations from 1350.
See also rinch.

RISE
RNG3

To increase. (Said of the wind.)

RIVER BOTTOM

DGNR2

Low ground, bottom.
DAE: American origin. "Low level land along the margin of a river." Citations from 1752.
NED citations from 1814.
See also flats.

ROAS'N EARS

EGR3
RGR2
SGR1
RNG3
DGNR2
KNG1
HNG2
LGNR1

Corn cooked on the cob. (Old-fashioned)
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1705.
ADD citations from Md., Tenn., SW Ark., Va., W Texas, SW Mo., W.Va., E Texas, Ky., and Pa.

ROCK FENCE

EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
SGR1
RNG3

A wall of rock or stone.
Kurath (40): "Rock fence is another Southern term that is fully established in the South Midland and the Shenandoah Valley. In West Virginia the Southern rock fence and the Midland stone fence occur side by side on the Monongahela and the upper reaches of the Potomac. The Midland term has been carried southward along Chesapeake Bay, nearly eliminating the Southern rock fence north of the Potomac and restricting its use on Delamarvia."
ADD citations from Cent. N.Y., E Ala., and W Ga.
See also rock wall, stone fence.

ROCK TANK

RGR2

A pool or pond where livestock are watered.
See also tank, dirt tank, pond, pool, lake.

ROCK WALL

KNG1
LGNR1

A wall made of rock or stone.
See also rock fence, stone wall.

ROPING ROPE

EGR3
HNG2
RNG3
LGNR1

A rope with a loop in it used for roping animals. (The informants who gave this word were very emphatic about such a rope being called a roping rope and not a lariat or lasso.)
See also lariat, lasso.

ROPING SADDLE
DGNR2
RNG3

A type of saddle.
See also Eastern, Dutch, Mexican, side, racing, and Western saddle.

RUMPEL KAMMER
DGNR2

A room for storing disused articles. (German)
Cassell: "Rumpelkammer, lumber room."
See also store room, junk room.

SACK
LGNR1
DGNR2
HNG2
KNG1

A paper bag.
Kurath (56): "Paper bag and paper sack are both widely used in the Eastern States."
NED citations from 1000.
See also paper bag.

SADDLE GIRT
DGNR2

A saddle girth.
DAE: "A strong belt for securing a saddle to the back of a horse." Citations from 1756.
ADD citations from E Va., SE Mo., S Ind., NW Ark., E Ala., W Ga., and S U.S.
See also cinch.

SAFE
SGR1
HNG2
RNG3
EGR3
KNG1

A piece of furniture in the kitchen for keeping food or dishes. (Old-fashioned)
See also cupboard.

SALT BACON
SGR1

Home cured bacon. (Side meat cured with salt.)
See also salt pork.

SALT PORK
HNG2
RNG3
EGR3
DGNR2
KNG1
RGR2

Home cured bacon.
Kurath (14): "Salt pork is a Northern expression which we find in New England and the greater part of rural N.Y. state."
DAE: "Pork cured with salt." Citations from 1723.
See also salt bacon.

SAUCE

A sweet liquid served with pudding.

SAUCE (Cont'd)

SGR1
RNG3
EGR3
DGNR2
RGR2

DAE: "A soft or liquid substance served with other food." Citations from 1774.
See also dip.

SAW

SGR1
KNG1
EGR3
RNG3
HNG2
LGNR1
DGNR2
RGR2

Past tense of see. (Saw was given as the response to the inquiry, but seen cropped out in the course of the conversations.)
See also seen.

SAW

KNG1
EGR3
RNG3
HNG2

A call to a cow while milking.
Kurath (64): "Saw!...is current everywhere south of Pa. except Delamarvia and in south-central Pa. also (as far north as the fork of the Susquehanna). In the greater part of the area so! and saw! stand side by side."
See also so.

SAWBUCK

LGNR1
SGR1
RNG3

A wooden device for sawing wood for firewood.
Kurath (59): "Although saw buck is now used all the way from Western New England to the Shenandoah Valley, it was disseminated from two separate focal areas, the Dutch on the Hudson and the Pennsylvania German on the Lehigh and the Susquehanna."
See also sawhorse, cradle.

SAWHORSE

DGNR2
HNG2

A device for sawing logs for firewood.
Kurath (59): "Sawhorse, often shortened to horse, is in rather general use throughout the Eastern States except for the greater part of Pa. east of the Alleghenies and W. Md., and the Dutch settlements where sawbuck dominates."
See also sawbuck, cradle.

SAWHORSE

A device used by carpenters in sawing planks.

SAWHORSE (Cont'd)

SGR1
HNG2
RNG3
RGR2
LGNR1
KNG1

SCALAWAG

RGR2

A person who is lazy or unambitious.
WD: "A scamp, a scapegrace. Colloq."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1848.
NED citations from 1848.
See also no count.

SCHNECKE

DGNR2

A cooky made by spreading dough with raisins, dates, and nuts, and baking. (Given by a German informant.)
Bruel: A snail.
See also small cake.

SCRAPS

DGNR2

Waste food for hogs.
See also garbage, slop.

SCREECH OWL

LGNR1
DGNR2
KNG1
RGR2
RNG3
SGR1
EGR3

A bird that shrieks at night. (This term was given by the younger informants; the older ones said that they called it a scrooch owl more often.)
Kurath (73): "The term screech owl is current in all of the Eastern States, but on Delmarvia and south of the Potomac other variants of this word and two other expressions have a wider currency than screech owl."
NED citations from 1593 (Shakespeare).
See also scrooch owl.

SCROOCH OWL

LGNR1
KNG1
HNG2

A bird that shrieks at night. (Used by older informants.)
See also screech owl.

SCRUB OAK

RGR2

A thicket of scrubby oak.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1779.
See also shin oak.

SCUTTLE

SGR1
RNG3

A container to bring in coal.
Kurath (60): "Coal scuttle has general currency in two separate areas: (1) from the Mohawk to Delaware Bay, including all of the Hudson Valley, Long Island, New Jersey, and the Philadelphia area; and (2) from the Potomac southward to the northern counties of N.C. and westward to the New River in W. Va....the Low Country of S.C....seems to have coal scuttle."
NED citations from 1849.

SEAMLESS SACK

KNG1

A sack used to carry corn and meal.
See also towsack, grass sack.

SECOND CROP

SGR1
HNG2
EGR3
KNG1
DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3

A crop that comes up after the first crop is out.
Kurath (66): "Second crop is the regular expression employed with reference to hay and clover in the South and Midland."

SEE

KNG1
LGNR1

To escort. (May I see you home?)
See also carry, escort.

SEED

RGR2
EGR3
DGNR2
HNG2

The hard center of a cherry.
See also kernel, pit.

SEED

LGNR1
DGNR2
HNG2
RNG3
EGR3
RGR2
KNG1

The hard center of a peach.
See also kernel.

SEE-SAW

LGNR1
DGNR2
SGR1
HNG2
KNG1
RGR2
EGR3
RNG3

A piece of play equipment for a child which consists of one board balanced over a strong piece of lumber or iron pipe.
Kurath (58): "The word see-saw is used everywhere, but in the New England settlement area other expressions are more widely current than see-saw. The same is true of parts of the South and South Midland."
NED citations from 1704.

SENSITIVE

RGR2
RNG3

Easily offended.
NED citations from 1859.
See also touchy, toucheous.

SETTEE

DGNR2
RNG3

A sofa.
NED citations from 1716.
See also couch, divan.

SETTIN' HEN

SGR1
RNG3
EGR3
KNG1
LGNR1
HNG2

A hen sitting on eggs to hatch them.
DAE citations from 1829.
See also cluck.

SETTIN' ROOM

KNG1

A room at the front of the house where guests are entertained.
ADD citations from E Mass. and W Ark.
See also living room, sitting room, parlor, front room.

SHADES

LGNR1
DGNR2
RGR2
RNG3
EGR3

Curtains that are pulled down over the window.
Kurath (52): "Roller shades are a recent invention. The term (roller) shades has general currency in the Hudson Valley, the Virginia Piedmont, and the greater part of the Carolinas, and it is widely used in the urban areas elsewhere. But in large parts of the Eastern States people still pull down the curtains or the blinds."
DAE: This meaning of American origin. Citations from 1867.

SHADES (Cont'd)

NED: U.S. "A window blind." Citations from 1624.
See also blinds.

SHAFTS

SGR1
RNG3
EGR3
DGNR2
RGR2

A set of wooden bars that go on each side of a horse hitched to a buggy.
Kurath (17): "The Hudson Valley, the Midland, and the South have only shafts (pronounced shavs or shaffs, rarely shafts), and this term is also current throughout the fills area."
NED citations from 1613.
See also shavs.

SHANGHAI FENCE

SGR1

A rock fence made with openings. (Informant thinks the name originated with Shanghai Pierce, a coastal cattleman, for whom Pierce Junction, Texas, is named.)
See also rock fence.

SHAVS

LGNR1
HNG2
KNG1

A set of wooden bars that go on each side of a horse hitched to a buggy. (Old-fashioned)
ADD citations from Cent. N.Y., S Ind., W Mo., SE Va., and Md.
See also shafts.

SHINE

KNG1

A derogatory term for Negro.
See also nigger, coon.

SHIN OAK

DGNR2

A growth of small oaks in a thicket.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1844.
See also scrub oak.

SHIPLAP

DGNR2
SGR1
HNG2

The overlapping boards on the outside of a house.
See also clapboards, siding, weatherboards.

SHIVAREE

LGNR1
SGR1
RGR2
HNG2

A noisy burlesque serenade after a wedding. (The old-fashioned speakers are familiar with the term, but they also say that the event itself is passing out.)
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1872.

SHIVAREE (Cont'd)
EGR3
KNG1

NED: Dial. in U.S. Citations from 1881.
WD: "Dial. in U.S."
A. L. Davis: Universal in Miss. Valley and westward.[2]

SHORT WAY
RNG3

A little way.
See also a little piece, a little ways.

SHUCKS
LGNR1
DGNR2
SGR1
HNG2
RNG3
EGR3
KNG1
RGR2

The outer coverings of an ear of corn.
Kurath (73): "The cover leaves of an ear of corn are called...shucks in the South and S Midland."
DAE: Americal origin. Citations from 1805.
NED: Chiefly Dial. in U.S. Citations from 1674.

SIDE SADDLE
EGR3
RNG3
RGR2
DGNR2
LGNR1
KNG1

A saddle for a lady. It was made so that both feet of the lady were on the same side of the horse. (Old-fashioned)
NED citations from 1493.
See also Eastern, Western, California, Dutch, cowboy, Mexican saddles.

SIDING
EGR3

The overlapping boards on the outside of a house.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1829.
NED citations from 1858.
See also clapboards, shiplap, weatherboards.

SILZA [sɪlzə]
RGR2
DGNR2

A pressed meat loaf made of hog's jowl. (Given by a German informant.)
See also souse, hogshead cheese, headcheese.

SINGLETREE
EGNR2
LGNR1

A bar to which a horse is hitched.
Kurath (58): "The bar to which horses are fastened is called a singletree or a swingletree in

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[2]A. L. Davis and R. I. McDavid, "'Shivaree': An Example of Cultural Diffusion," American Speech, XXIV (December, 1949), 249-255.

SINGLETREE (Cont'd)

SGR1
RGR2
RNG3
EGR3
KNG1

all the South and the Midland.... In the North Midland singletree is now almost universal."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1841.
NED citations from 1847.

SINK BUCKET

RGR2

A bucket made of zinc.

SITTING ROOM

DGNR2

A room in the front of the house where guests are received. (Old-fashioned)
NED citations from 1806.
See also living room, settin' room, parlor, front room.

SKEDADDLE

LGNR1

To leave very fast.
WD: Colloq. for scamper.
DAE: American origin (colloq.). Citations from 1861.
NED citations from 1870.
See also light a shuck, get a move on, hustle.

SKILLET

SGR1
RGR2
HNG2
RNG3
EGR3
KNG1
LGNR1
DGNR2

A frying pan. (Several of the informants qualified this definition to mean (1) a heavy iron utensil to use on a campfire, (2) it must have a lid, and (3) it is used to bake bread on a campfire or in a fireplace. It was also considered old-fashioned by the older speakers.)
Kurath (56): "The flat-bottomed cast iron frying pan is now often called simply a frying pan, especially in urban areas. However, two older expressions, skillet and spider, are still extensively used for the cast-iron pan to distinguish it from the modern sheet metal frying pan. Skillet is still current in all of the Midland from New Jersey to western S.C. and westward. It is also the old term in the Virginia Piedmont, but it has here been largely supplanted by frying pan."
DAE: Obs. when meaning a cooking utensil with a long handle and three or four legs. Citations from 1630.

SKILLET (Cont'd)

ADD citations from S Ind., S Ill., S Ohio, SE Ky., E Tenn., W N.C., SE Mo., NW Ark., Cent. Ky., SW Mo., W.Va., and Miss.
NED citations from 1403.
See also frying pan.

SKUNK

HNG2
RNG3
EGR3
KNG1
RGR2
DGNR2

A pole cat.
Kurath (74): "The Northern term skunk (of Indian origin), supported by literary usage, has made its way into the Midland and even into the Southern area."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1634.
NED citations from 1634.
See also pole cat.

SLAT FENCE

LGNR1

A fence made of palings.
See also picket fence, paling fence.

SLOP

RGR2
SGR1
HNG2
RNG3
EGR3
KNG1
LGNR1
DGNR2

Waste food fed to hogs.
Kurath (13): "...slop, which is in general use in the Midland and the South, survives to some extent in New England (including conservative Cape Cod and Nantucket) and on the Mohawk."
NED citations from 1815.
ADD citations from S U.S.
See also scraps, garbage.

SLOP BUCKET

KNG1
SGR1
HNG2
EGR3
LGNR1
DGNR2

A container for slop.
Kurath (56): "Note...Northern swill pail, and Midland and Southern slop bucket."
DAE: Slop may be used attributively. Citations from 1805.
See also scrap box, garbage pail.

SLOPPY

RNG3
SGR1
DGNR2

Untidy in appearance.
WD: Colloq. for slovenly or careless.
NED citations from 1825.
See also slouchy.

SLOUCHY

LGNR1
RGR2
HNG2
EGR3
KNG1

Untidy in appearance.
NED citations from 1693.
See also sloppy.

SLOUGH [s/u]

SGR1

An inlet or bay.
DAE: This meaning of American origin. Citations from 1665.
NED citations from 1817.

SMACK

HNG2
EGR3

To kiss.
WD: A loud kiss.
NED citations from 1628.
See also buss, smooch.

SMEARCASE

RGR2
EGR3
LGNR1
DGNR2

Homemade cheese. (Used by older people, Germans especially.)
Kurath (71): "Smearcase (shmear case, smear cheese), borrowed from the Pennsylvania German (schmierkase), is current throughout the North Midland and has spread to all of Delaware and Maryland and into the Shenandoah Valley. It has even gained a foothold on the Northern Neck of Virginia and on the Kanawha in W. Virginia."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1846.
NED citations from 1848.
ADD citations from S Ind., S Ill., S Ohio, Kans., NW Ark., and W.Va.
See also cottage cheese, clabber cheese, curd cheese.

SMOKEHOUSE

RNG3
DGNR2

A house for taking care of meat.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1759.
NED citations from 1860.

SMOOCH

DGNR2

To kiss. (Modern)
ADD citations from Md., SE Ky., E Tenn., W N.C., and Eastern U.S.
Ling. Atlas: Eastern N.C., scattered areas in Virginia, and shading into the mountains of W.Va.
See also smack, buss.

SNACK

LGNR1
DGNR2
SGR1
RGR2
RNG3
KNG1

Food eaten between meals.
Kurath (39): "For a bite of food between meals the South and S. Midland as far north as the Kanawha River use snack."
NED citations from 1757.
ADD citations from SW Mo. and NW Ark.
See also lunch.

SNAKE DOCTOR

DGNR2
HNG2
KNG1

A dragon fly.
Kurath (75): "In the Virginia Piedmont and Shenandoah Valley and adjoining parts of Md. and N.C. snake doctor is the regular form."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1800.
ADD citations from Cent. Ky.
See also dragon fly, mosquito hawk.

SNAP BEANS

LGNR1
DGNR2
RGR2
HNG2
RNG3
KNG1

Green beans eaten in the pod.
Kurath (38): "String beans are generally called snap beans south of the Potomac. Snap beans has crossed the Blue Ridge in Va. and is a recent competitor of the Midland green-beans on the Yadkin in N.C."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1775.
NED citations from 1848.
ADD citations from Ga., SE Va., W N.C., E Tenn., E Ala., W Ga., and SW Va.

SO

LGNR1

A call to a cow while milking.
Kurath (24): "In the Albany area sto! is heard beside so at milking time...."
ADD citations from Ga.
See also saw.

SODA POP

LGNR1

A soft drink. (Old-fashioned)
ADD citations from W Mo., Kans., Miss., Md., NE N.Y., E Texas, and W N.C.
See also sody pop.

SODY POP

KNG1

Same as above.
See also soda pop.

SOFA

A couch.

SOFA (Cont'd)
DGNR2
RNG3
KNG1

DAE citations from 1717.
See also couch, divan, settee.

SOOK
HNG2
RGR2
KNG1
EGR3
DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3

A call to a cow or calf.
Kurath (30): "The Midland call to cows or calves is sook or sookie, usually undifferentiated."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1838.
ADD citations from W Mo., Miss., and N.C.

SOUSE
LGNR1
SGR1
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3

A pressed meat loaf made of hog's jowl. (Some informants contended that souse had spice in it; others said it was simply an old-fashioned term for headcheese.)
NED citations from 1391.
ADD citations from NW Ark., S W.Va., E Cent. S.C., SW Pa., and N W.Va.
See also silza, headcheese.

SPARK
LGNR1
HNG2
KNG1

To make love. (Old-fashioned)
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1787.
NED citations from 1859.
ADD citations from Miss., Mass., N.Y., SE Va., Ky., SW Mo., NW Ark., E Texas, Ark., and Maine coast.
See also courting.

SPOOK
LGNR1
RNG3
EGR3
RGR2
KNG1

A ghost.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1801.
ADD citations from NW Va.
Ling. Atlas: W Vt., Mass., Conn., N.Y., Pa., Md., W.Va., mountains of Va., N.C., and shades into S.C. east of the mountains.
See also hant.

SPOON BREAD
SGR1
RNG3

A kind of cornbread made with a thin batter and served with a spoon.
Kurath (68): "Another term, spoon bread, is current in scattered communities on Chesapeake

SPOON BREAD (Cont'd)

Bay (Baltimore to Norfolk), on the lower Shenandoah, and on the Cape Fear in North Carolina (Wilmington)."
See also cornbread, corncake, corn pone.

SPREAD

LGNR1
KNG1

A fancy daytime cover for a bed. (Modern)
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1836.
NED citations from 1852.
See also counterpin, counterpane, bedspread.

SPRY

RNG3
RGR2
KNG1
DGNR2
LGNR1
EGR3

Lively.
NED citations from 1746.
See also spunky.

SPUNKY

SGR1

Lively.
NED citations from 1786.
See also spry.

STAKE AND RIDER

DGNR2
LGNR1
RNG3
HNG2
SGR1
RGR2
KNG1

A rail fence.
Kurath (55): "Other types of fences are built of rails: the post-and-rail fence of New England, also known as the Connecticut rail fence, in which the rails are inserted in sturdy posts; the herring-bone fence = stake-and-rider fence = buck fence...."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1829.
ADD citations from Va., S W.Va., Neb., NE Ky.
See also rail fence, worm fence, Shanghai fence.

STAKE FENCE

DGNR2

A picket fence.
See also paling fence, picket fence, slat fence.

STALLION

HNG2
RNG3
RGR2
LGNR1
KNG1

A male horse for breeding purposes.
NED citations from 1388.
See also stud.

STOCK PASS
SGR1
A cattle guard.
See also cattle guard.

STOCK SADDLE
RNG3
LGNR1
A saddle sometimes called Western. It has a pommel for roping.
See also Western, Eastern, roping, Dutch, English, side, racing.

STONE
RNG3
SGR1
The hard center of a cherry.
NED citations from 1523.
Ling. Atlas: Stone is the predominant term in New England, but appears only in a scattered way in other areas. Pit predominates in the inland North, seed in the Midland and South.
See also pit, seed.

STONE FENCE
DGNR2
A fence made of stones.
Kurath (55): "Fences built of loose stones around fields and pastures are known as stone walls in the New England settlement area as far west as central New York State, as stone fences in the North Midland, and as rock fences farther south. Stone fence now predominates in all of Maryland, but in West Virginia the Southern rock fence is now more common than the Midland stone fence.
See also rock fence, rock wall.

STORAGE ROOM
KNG1
SGR1
A room for storing disused articles.
NED citations from 1612.
See also store room, rumpel kammer.

STORE ROOM
RGR2
EGR3
A room for storing disused articles.
NED citations from 1746.
Kurath (52): "Store room appears to be the usual term in the Philadelphia area...."
See also storage room, rumpel kammer.

STRING BEANS
EGR3
RGR2
Green beans cooked and eaten in the pod.
Kurath (73): "...green beans north of the Potomac ...string beans occurs also in the Eastern part of the Carolinas (but not on Albemarle

STRING BEANS (Cont'd)

Sound) and is gaining a foothold on the Northern Neck of Virginia and in the Pittsburgh area."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1759.
See also snap beans, green beans.

STRING OF BEADS

EGR3
HNG2
KNG1
LGNR1
SGR1

A necklace of beads.
See also pair of beads.

STRING OF HORSES

RNG3

A collection of riding horses.
See also caviard, remuda, bunch.

STUD

LGNR1
SGR1
EGR3

A male horse used for breeding.
DAE: This meaning of American origin. Citations from 1803.
See also stallion.

SUNDOWN

HNG2
EGR3
KNG1
DGNR2
LGNR1

Sunset.
DAE: Chiefly local. Citations from 1712.
NED citations from 1620.
ADD citations from Cent. N.Y.

SUNRISE

SGR1
RGR2
KNG1
RNG3
DGNR2

The time the sun comes into view in the morning.
See also sun-up.

SUNSET

DGNR2
LGNR1
SGR1
HNG2

See also sundown.

SUN-UP
LGNR1
KNG1
HNG2
EGR3

Sunrise.
DAE citations from 1712.
NED citations from 1847.
ADD citations from Ark., SE Va., SE Mo., S Ind., NW Ark., Fla., Ga., NW Miss., N W.Va., and Maine coast.

SURLY
EGR3
KNG1
RNG3
SGR1

A bull. (Old-fashioned)
NED: Original meanings for the word are masterful, arrogant, ill humored. Citations from 1572.
ADD citations from Texas Panhandle (a cowboy euphemism), SW Mo., and NW Ark.
See also bull, toro.

SWELLED UP
HNG2

Angry.
See also mad.

SWITCH
KNG1
EGR3
RGR2
HNG2
RNG3
SGR1
DGNR2
LGNR1

A small branch of a tree or shrub used for punishing children.

TAKE
DGNR2
RNG3
RGR2
EGR3

To escort.
See also carry, escort.

TAKE OFF
EGR3

To leave work.
See also get off.

TAKE OFF LIKE A HOUSE AFIRE
RNG3

To leave in a hurry.
See also light a shuck.

TANK
RNG3

A pool or pond where livestock are watered. (The informant indicated that this term was used for an artificial pool.)
NED: In the U.S. it may mean a natural pool or pond. Citations from 1678.
See also rock tank, dirt tank, pool, lake.

TARTAR
KNG1

A dry land turtle.
See also terrapin, turtle, tortoise.

TEN CENT STORE
RGR2

A store that sells miscellaneous articles.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1901.
See also dime store, racket store, variety store, five-and-ten cent store.

TEN FORTY-FIVE
RNG3

See also quarter to, quarter till.

TERRAPIN
SGR1
RNG3

A dry land turtle.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1672.
NED: Of Algonquin origin. Citations from 1613.
See also tartar, turtle.

THICKET
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
LGNR1
SGR1
RNG3

A clump of mesquite.
See also chapparral.

THICKET
RNG3
SGR1
HNG2
LGNR1
KNG1
EGR3

A clump of scrubby oak.
NED citations from 1530.
See also shin oak, scrub oak.

THUNDERSTORM
KNG1
SGR1
RNG3
LGNR1
DGNR2

A storm accompanied by lightning and thunder.
See also electric storm.

TIGHT
RNG3

Stingy.
NED citations of this meaning from 1828.

TIGHTWAD
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2
RGR2
LGNR1
DGNR2
SGR1

A stingy person.
WD: "One who lends or gives away money grudgingly. ... Slang U.S."

TIRED OUT
SGR1
LGNR1

Exhausted.

TOAD-FROG
SGR1
EGR3
RGR2
LGNR1
RNG3

A frog that hops
ADD citations from S Ill., SE Mo., W N.C., NW Ark., SW Va., W Cent. N.C., La., Kans., Ky., W Ark.

TOILET
RNG3

An outdoor toilet.
See also commode.

TOLERABLE
EGR3
KNG1
HNG2

Pretty good. (Old-fashioned)
NED citations from 1598.
ADD citations from Ga., Cent. N.Y., Kans., SW Va., SE W.Va., W N.C., E Tenn., and SW Ind.

TORO

A bull. (Used by older people.)

TORO (Cont'd)
LGNR1
KNG1

Kurath (19): "Such euphemisms for a bull as gentleman cow, gentleman ox, top cow, sire, toro, critter, and animal were not to the taste of the plain-spoken frontiersman, if indeed they were not the later creations of the Victorian era in New England."
Barcia: A ferocious animal; a bull.
See also surly, bull.

TOTE
KNG1

To carry. (Formerly used by this informant.)
DAE: American origin. Chiefly S. dialect.
NED citations from 1676.
ADD citations from Mass., Ala., Ga., NE Cent. Ind., Va., Tenn., W Fla., W N.C., E Tenn., SW Mo., E Maine, SE Ga., S.C., and NE Ore.
Ling. Atlas: S Md., east of the Blue Ridge in Va., N.C., and S.C.

TOUCHEOUS
KNG1
HNG2
LGNR1

Easily offended.
ADD citations from Ky., SE Mo., W N.C., E Tenn., NW Ark., E Ala., W Ga., SW Mo., and W Ark.
See also sensitive, touchy.

TOUCHY
DGNR2
EGR3
KNG1
RGR2
SGR1

Easily offended.
NED citations from 1605.
ADD citations from Ga., S Ill., and W.Va.
See also toucheous, sensitive.

TOW SACK
LGNR1
DGNR2
RNG3
EGR3
KNG1
RGR2

A large sack made of burlap.
Kurath (57): "Tow sack is the North Carolina term. It is common throughout the state and rare outside of it, except around Norfolk, Virginia."
ADD citations from W Ark., SE Tenn., and N.C.

TRASH BOX
DGNR2

A garbage container.
See also garbage bucket, trash bucket.

TRASH BUCKET
RGR2

A garbage container.
See also trash box, garbage bucket.

TRIFLING
HNG2
EGR3
RNG3

Lazy, unambitious.
See no count, scalawag.

TUCKERED OUT
DGNR2

Tired, exhausted.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1833.
NED citations from 1840.
ADD citations from N Eng., Cent. Ind., Mass., Md., E Neb., Cent. Conn., SE N.H., NW Ark., E Ala., W Ga., W N.Y., E Ky., and Maine coast.
See also played out, pooped out, tired out.

TURKEY, TURKEY
LGNR1

A call to turkeys.

TURK, TURK
HNG2
KNG1
EGR3

A call to turkeys.

TURNIP GREENS
RNG3

The tops of turnips which are cooked.
Kurath (72-3): "Garden greens regularly go by this name in the N. Midland, in Delmarvia, and in all of Md., west of the Bay except for the peninsula south of Annapolis. In the South Midland also, (garden) greens is the usual term, and it appears to be gaining ground there. In the entire coastal section of North Carolina and South Carolina greens is common--and certainly old; in Tidewater Virginia it is quite rare except on the Northern Neck, and in the Piedmont of Virginia, it is not used at all."

TURN OF CORN
LGNR1

A load of corn to be carried to the mill.
DAE citations from 1800.
ADD citations from Miss., SE Mo., W N.C., E Tenn.,

TURN OF CORN (Cont'd)

Ky., and Ala.
See also load of corn.

TURTLE

HNG2
EGR3

A term for either the dry land or water turtle.
See also tartar, tortoise.

VALLEY

LGNR1

A flat grassy country.
See also bottoms, flats.

VEGETABLE GARDEN

DGNR2

A plot of ground where vegetables are grown.

VERANDA

DGNR2

A porch. (Old-fashioned)
NED citations from 1711. It was originally introduced from India, where the word is found in several native dialects.
DAE: A roofed gallery or piazza extending along the front or one side of a residence or hotel.
ADD citations from Cent. N.Y., Maine, and E Cent. S.C.

WADDIE

LGNR1

A cowboy.
DAE: American origin. It is Western for cattle rustler. Citations from 1897.
See also cowhand, cowboy, cowpoke.

WAGONLOAD

DGNR2
LGNR1
HNG2

The amount of corn that can be carried at one time.
See also turn of corn, load of corn.

WALK YOU HOME

KNG1

Take you home.
See also carry, escort.

WARDROBE

SGR1
KNG1

A large piece of furniture used for hanging up clothes.
NED citations from 1794.

WARDROBE (Cont'd)

RGR2
EGR3
LGNR1
DGNR2
HNG2

WASH

RNG3

A deeply cut valley or gully.
NED citations from 1483.
See also canyon.

WASH CLOTH

KNG1

A cloth used for bathing.
See also wash rag.

WASH RAG

HNG2
SGR1
RGR2
RNG3
DGNR2
LGNR1
EGR3

A cloth used for bathing.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1890.
See also wash cloth.

WASTELAND

HNG2
KNG1
EGR3
RGR2
LGNR1
DGNR2
RNG3

Land that is not fit for cultivation--will not produce.
NED citations from 1887.
DAE: "Uncultivated or uninhabited land, frequently in colonial times, reserved for woodland or other common purposes." Citations from 1654.

WATER BOTTLE

RGR2

A large bottle for drinking water.
See also jug, cooler.

WATER HOLE

LGNR1
HNG2

A pool or pond where livestock are watered.
DAE: In the West "a hole or depression in the ground in which water collects."
See also tank, pool, pond, rock tank, dirt tank.

WATER JUG
SGR1
RNG3

A large jar for drinking water.
DAE: "A jug for water." Citations from 1779.
See also cooler.

WATERSHED
RGR2

A high flat land.
See also divide, plateau, ridge.

WAYS, A LITTLE
RGR2

A little distance.
Kurath (66): "He lives a little way(s) down the road is an utterance one hears in all of the Eastern States.... This expression is also in common use in Delmarvia and between the Cape Fear and the Peedee."
See also little piece.

WEATHERBOARDS
LGNR1
KNG1
EGR3
RGR2

The overlapping boards on the outside of a house.
NED citations from 1539.
See also clapboard, shiplap, siding.

WESTERN SADDLE
EGR3
RGR2
DGNR2

A saddle with a large pommel.
See also Eastern, side, Dutch, English, racing.

WHETROCK
LGNR1
RNG3
SGR1
HNG2
EGR3

A rock on which metal knives, etc., are sharpened.
Kurath (60): "Whetrock is current in the South except for the tidewater area, and in the South Midland; whetstone is in general use in the North Midland and in the North."
ADD citations from W N.C., E Tenn., NW Ark., E Ala., W Ga., SW Va., and Cent. Ky.
See also whetstone.

WHETSTONE
DGNR2
KNG1
RGR2

See also whetrock.

WHISTLING

HNG2
RGR2
RNG3
KNG1
EGR3

A call to horses in the pasture.
See also co, cope.

WHITE TRASH

KNG1

A poor white or rustic. The term may also be used to denote a group of such people.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1855.
ADD citations from Miss., SE Mo., E Ala., W Ga., Va., and N.C.
See also Arkansawyer, cedar cutter, hick, hillbilly.

WINDOWSHADE

KNG1
HNG2

A curtain that rolls up and down on the window.
Kurath (52): "Roller shades are a recent invention. The term (roller) shades has currency in the Hudson Valley, the Virginia Piedmont, and the greater part of the Carolinas, and it is widely used in the urban areas elsewhere."
See also blinds.

WISH BONE

EGR3
SGR1
RGR2
DGNR2

The part of the chicken's breast bone which children like to pull apart.
Kurath (63): "Wishbone appears to be a Northern expression which now also predominates in the North Midland and has come to be rather widely used in Maryland and Virginia west of Chesapeake Bay. In the Carolinas it is pretty well confined to cultivated speech."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1853.
See also pulley bone.

WO

DGNR2

A call to a cow while milking.
See also so, saw.

WOA

HNG2
RNG3
RGR2
SGR1
DGNR2

A call to horses to stop them.
Kurath (66): "The most common call is woa! It is the only form one hears in the Midland and the greater part of the South."
ADD citations from Ga. and Cent. Ky.

WOA (Cont'd)

LGNR1
EGR3
KNG1

WOODCHUCK

HNG2

Used by this informant to mean woodpecker.
DAE: Groundhog. Citations from 1674.
See also woodpecker, peckerwood.

WOODEN BUCKET

RNG2

A wooden container for water.
See also metal bucket.

WOODJACK

RGR2

A wooden device for sawing logs for firewood.
Kurath (59): "In the Alleghenies the sawhorse is sometimes called a (wood) jack."
See also sawbuck, cradle.

WOODPECKER

SGR1
EGR3
RNG3
RGR2
DGNR2

See also peckerwood, woodchuck.

WOOD PUSSY

RGR2

A skunk.
ADD citations from Calif.
See also skunk, pole cat.

WOODS COLT

HNG2

An illegitimate child.
Kurath (77): "Woodscolt is current in the Carolinas, the South Appalachians, and the Ohio Valley from Wheeling downstream."
ADD citations from Ky., SE Mo., W N.C., E Tenn., SW Va., Maine, S.C., SW Pa., and NE Ky.
See also illegitimate child, bastard.

WOP

KNG1
RNG3
DGNR2

A nickname for an Italian.

WORM FENCE
KNG1
LGNR1

A rail fence that zigzags.
Kurath (55): "The Midland term for the zigzag fence is worm fence, an expression that predominates in Pennsylvania, W Virginia, New Jersey, and Delamarvia and has made its way into northern Virginia."
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1652.
See also rail fence, stake and rider fence, Shanghai fence.

WORN OUT
RGR2
EGR3

Tired and exhausted.
See also played out, tired out.

YELLOW JACKET
SGR1
HNG2

A wasp that stings.
DAE: American origin. Citations from 1796.
See also dirt dauber.

YONDER
LGNR1
KNG1
RGR2
RNG3
EGR3

Over there, within sight, or at a distance.
NED: "At some distance, but within sight." Now only literary, archaic, or dialectical. Citations from 1300.
ADD citations from NW Ark., W Mass., W Cent. W.Va., W N.C., S.C., Miss., and many other localities, mainly Southern.

YOU ALL
RGR2
RNG3
SGR1
HNG2
DGNR2
LGNR1
KNG1

You (plural).
Kurath (67): "You-all is current throughout the South and the South Midland (in all of West Virginia, except the northwestern portion around Wheeling and Parkersburg)."
ADD citations from Va., SE Mo., Cent. Ky., W Mo., NW Ark., S.C. (Gullah), Texas, and W.Va.

ZINC BUCKET
KNG1

A metal vessel for milk or water.
See also bucket, pail.

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS OF THE KERR COUNTY VOCABULARY

People tend to change their cars and farm machinery periodically, to follow the fashions in dress, or to acquire the latest in a radio or television set, but speech is like politics and religion. We inherit it, practice it, and cherish it. Everyone is prone to fall into the speech habits of those around him. Formal training recedes into the background when one is constantly in touch with the folk speech of his particular area.

> In the local school he gets to know the written language, but if he settles back into the simple life of his forbears he will continue to speak much like his family and his neighbors of an older generation, even if he reads the local newspapers and the Saturday Evening Post or listens to the radio.[1]

The names that he applies to the everyday relationships among people, objects, and activities of life will be those words which his family and friends use.

> Food, clothing, shelter, health, the day's work, play, mating, social gatherings, the land, the farm buildings, implements, the farm stocks and crops, the weather, the fauna, and the flora--these are the intimate concern of the common folk in the countryside, and for these things expressions are handed down in the family and the neighborhood that schooling and reading and a familiarity with regional or national usage do not blot out.[2]

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[1] Kurath, A Word Geography of the Eastern United States, p. 80.

[2] Ibid., p. 10.

It is the purpose of this chapter to examine and discuss the words in the glossary from the standpoint of their occurrences in Kerr County; that is, whether they were used more often by the older or younger informants, whether they were used by the Germans or non-Germans, and whether they were used by the ranchers or non-ranchers. Those words which were used most often by the older informants will be discussed first. Since the list is too long to be handled as a single group, it has been further divided into the following groups: words pertaining to the house, those pertaining to foods, those concerning the farm or ranch, and those concerning social levels and customs in the community.

Most of the old-fashioned words that were given for items related to the house will readily be recognized as speech features of an earlier generation. In fact, practically every one of these words has been replaced, or is being replaced, by one of more modern usage. For instance, counterpin has been replaced by bedspread. A group of high school seniors were asked what a counterpin is, and not one of them knew the meaning. Blinds was on its way to being replaced by shades until Venetian blinds became so popular. Bureau is no longer thought of as an item of bedroom furniture, but as something which the Democrats have added to government. Likewise, dresser has been replaced by dressing table to a certain extent, or perhaps more often by chest of drawers. The davenport in the parlor, front room, or settin' room is now obsolete; nowadays the divan is in the living room. The feather-bed and quilt of an earlier day have been supplanted by the beauty

rest mattress and electric blanket. Neither does the modern housekeeper watch the clock on the fireboard or mantelboard as these old-fashioned speakers did, but her little antique model or electric clock stands on the mantel. Today's young housewife speaks of the entrance to her house, not the gallery; she has a little glazed porch for a sitting place in summer.

Items of food have also undergone changes in names. In the days before adequate refrigeration, everyone knew what blinky or blue john milk was; today only the older people know. Clabber cheese or clabber curd have been replaced among the younger speakers by the commercial term cottage cheese. Corn dodger, gritted bread, and hoecake are likewise passing from use. Since the advent of the school cafeteria, the little dinner bucket, lunch basket, and lunch pail of grandmother's day are rapidly falling from the vocabulary of the people. Only the very old-fashioned speakers cling to the resit of an earlier day; now one follows a recipe. Sody pop is used only by the older informants. Rinch, a term used by old-fashioned speakers, has been replaced by the modern form rinse. Perhaps this is partly through the influence of the radio advertising for the familiar product, Rinso. With the introduction of the thermos jug and its popular use, we find water jug used less and less.

Mechanized farming and ranching have introduced a whole new vocabulary to take the place of many old-fashioned words which are given by the older informants. For example, bob wire has been replaced in speech by barbed wire, and the object itself has been replaced in many

instances by a single strand of wire charged with electricity. Likewise, worm fence, rail fence, and rock wall were used only by the older informants. The present day farmer or rancher uses fuel oil or butane gas for cooking and heating, thereby relegating sawbuck and cradle, necessary farm implements (for holding logs for sawing) in grandfather's day, to obsolescence. A side saddle has almost become a museum piece. In like fashion shavs of a buggy have become unknown to a younger generation. Only the older informants now use the term. In an age in which everyone prides himself on being a realist, it would be rather incongruous to expect a bull to be called a toro or a surly--euphemisms used by the older speakers. Stud was a well known term with the old-fashioned speakers also, but it was not familiar to the younger ones. The terms cowhand, waddie, and cowlot seem to have lost in popularity; this is probably due to the influence of the movie terms vaquero and corral. The term bawl for the noise made by a cow, nicker for the noise made by a horse, and cope, a call to horses, seem to be rapidly passing out of use. Since the advent of large scale cotton farming, the term cotton patch is becoming obsolete except among the old-fashioned speakers who were familiar with the older method of cotton culture. Likewise, the milking machines, which have replaced hand milking, have caused milk pail to be considered old fashioned. In like manner, running water in every kitchen has caused zinc bucket to lose currency both as a word and as an object. In like manner, the terms polecat and scrooch owl have yielded to the modern words skunk and screech owl. Other terms used by the older speakers

for animals or birds are: mosquito hawk, peckerwood, woodchuck, tartar (tortoise), and raintoad.

Another group of words which seemed to be characteristic of the older informants embodies their nomenclature for levels of society and social customs. We find such terms as Arkansawyer, cedar cutter, hayseed, hick, and poor white trash used by older speakers to designate the poor white class. Patty is the common term among them for an Irishman. The Mexican is called by such names as pepper belly and pilau, while the Negro is given such appellations as coon, darkey, and shine. The illegitimate child is known among the older speakers as a woodscolt, and the midwife is called a granny or granny woman. Some older expressions for the relationships within the family are ma, madam (wife), old man, old lady, papa, pa, and kinfolks. The age-old custom of lovemaking and mating brought forth such older terms as bussing, smacking, courtin', and sparkin'. The old-fashioned terms for afternoon are after dinner and evening, while morning is known as forenoon. Christmas gift! is the old-fashioned speaker's salutation on Christmas morning; howdy! his familiar greeting on other occasions. Some verbs and verb forms which appear to be common to the older speakers' vocabulary are to chunk, dove (past tense of dive), to carry (to escort), clumb (past tense of climb), might can, and to tote. The vivid terms and phrases, light a shuck,[3] played out, spunky, get a move on, gully washer, antigodlin, onery, and toucheous appear prima-

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[3]See the glossary for the meanings of these items.

rily in the speech of the older speakers. Haunches are known among such speakers as haunkers, or hunkers. Another expression which has passed out of use is racket store for a dime store.

Since only one teen-age person was interviewed and the next youngest was forty-six years old, we would not expect to find many expressions typical of younger speakers. However, there are some terms that should be discussed. Among these are smooching and courting, which date back many generations. The Dictionary of American English cites the usage of smooching as early as 1631, but it was revived in recent years in the East (Virginia and North Carolina), and now it is gaining in usage in the Southwest. Among the older informants for this paper, courting means "courting a girl with the intention of marrying her," but among the younger generation it means "necking" or "petting." Pooped out, meaning tired out, seems to be a term used primarily by the younger people. They also seem to be more careful about saying rinse, barbed wire, take you home, and afternoon--rather than the older forms mentioned earlier.

A tabulation of some of the older and newer usages will give a partial picture of the changes in progress in the vocabulary of this area. Words labeled "old-fashioned" were either used primarily by older informants or--when used by younger speakers--were specifically stated to be older usages.

Old-fashioned	Modern
hunkers	haunches
counterpin	bedspread
gallery, veranda	porch

pole cat	skunk
shavs	unfamiliar
racket store	dime store
buss	kiss, smooch
Christmas gift!	Merry Christmas!
hoe cake	corn bread
corn pone	corn bread
gritted bread	corn bread
ma	mother
pa	daddy
parlor	living room
surly	bull
bureau	dresser
goobers	peanuts
blinky	unfamiliar
clabber cheese, clabber curd	cottage cheese
resit	recipe
cowlot, horse lot	corral
woodscolt	illegitimate child
granny, granny woman	midwife
evening	afternoon
antigodlin	--
dogirons, firedogs	andirons
battercake, flapjack	hotcake, pancake
blinds	shades
leggins	chaps
chunk	throw
dip	sauce
pack	carry
tolerable	--

The words will now be examined from the standpoint of national origin of the users; that is, whether used by people of German or non-German descent. The words used primarily by the informants of German descent might be grouped into three classes; namely, (1) those that are either German words or translations of them; (2) those that were adopted from the Spanish, and (3) those that are of English or American origin.

Among the first group we find grandmama and grandpapa, which are

probably translations of German groszmama and groszpapa. Mutter is also in use among families of German descent. Other words of this group are terms for food. The Kerr County Germans use smearcase (German schmierkäse) for curd cheese; they also speak of cooked cheese, another form of homemade cheese. In addition to referring to hog's head cheese as souse, they call it silza--apparently a German word, though it is not listed in the dictionaries that I have examined. Quak [kwak] is another term for clabbered milk; sometimes such milk is said to be kippered. One of the choice foods for special occasion breakfasts is panas scrapple (from German Pfannhase, 'pan rabbit'). A Christmas pastry that is popular among the Germans is schnecke. Some of these speakers use himmel as a term of disgust. Similar words of German origin are rainworm (German regenwurm) for earthworm and cluck for setting hen. Rumpel kammer, the standard German term for a junk room, is in occasional use.

As has been stated previously in the paper, the early German settlers were opportunists unmatched. They immediately seized the opportunities offered in this area with its grass waist high and its spring waters, and turned the wilderness into a great cattle country. They quickly adopted the Mexican vaquero's range, his type of cattle, and much of his vocabulary. Some of the words which indicate this influence are alamo, calaboose, caviard, chapparral, cinch, corral, mustang, pelado [pilau], piloncillo, pilon, and remuda. That the Germans adopted the Spanish words more readily than the non-Germans is explained by the fact that the Germans were the ones who availed them-

selves of the advantages offered by an industry indigenous to the country, as well as the labor of the Spanish speaking people, who were adept in the skills of that vocation.

The third group of words showing greater frequency among the Germans--those words of American or English origin--contains, for the most part, words that name objects in the house or about the farm. Among the terms for such articles we find feather bed, blinds, chifferobe, coal bucket, scuttle, coal oil, pig sty, and rock tank. Some of these may merely reflect a greater linguistic conservatism among this group; others, such as feather bed (a kind of puff or feather quilt) no doubt indicate characteristically German household objects.

A few brief observations of the vocabulary may be made from the standpoint of the occupations of the informants. Since ranching is the only native industry, it will be the only one used as a criterion. These words used primarily by ranchers are of two main types: namely, those having to do with topography, and those concerned with objects and animals on the ranch. In the first group are dirt tank, rock tank, draw, landstorm, and watershed. Of course, this list does not include those words adopted from the Spanish; they will be considered in the next chapter. Words of the second type (again excluding Spanish borrowings) are buck, cope, girt, grass sack, harrow, near horse, ranch hand, stock pass, and stud--all of which are used more often by the ranchers in this area than by the non-ranching speakers.

CHAPTER V

WORDS OF SOUTHWESTERN ORIGIN

In an area where the most coveted positions are held by men whose dress clothes are fine gabardine frontier pants, bright colored shirts, high-heeled boots, and ten-gallon hats, and the most envied high school senior will retire to the ancestral ranch after he finishes college, we would expect a language as colorful and distinctive as the people who speak it. That is really the situation in Kerr County. The factors contributing to this reality are the ranching interests, geographic conditions, and the proximity of Mexico and the Spanish-speaking people. These conditions gave rise to a new vocabulary made up of two groups of words: those that were adopted from the Spanish and those that seem to be indigenous to the Southwest.

In the first group, those of Spanish origin, we find most of the words pertinent to the cattle industry. Bronc, burro, chaps, cinch, corral, lariat, lasso, mustang, paint,[1] pinto, remuda, hackamore, morral, and tank are among such words. These words were adopted by the early settlers along with this new industry. Even though most of the original Kerr Countians came from a farming area in the central United States or in Germany, they were quick to see the advantages of ranching. However, it was an industry of the Mexicans and as old as the written records that are kept for this continent. In fact, it is

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[1] An English word, but probably "translated" from Spanish pinto.

said that Columbus brought cattle on his voyage in 1493. Thus we see these hardy frontiersmen appropriating an industry, which prospered because of the mild climate, the succulent range, and the constant water supply--a way of living for which their original vocabulary was not adequate. Consequently, much of the vocabulary was also appropriated from the previous inhabitants. Today these words are as much a part of the native's vocabulary as any Midland or Southern terms.

Some of these borrowed words show slight changes in meaning; other words show a difference in spelling; but a few others are borrowings which have changed in neither meaning nor spelling--though all, of course, are somewhat modified in pronunciation. In the first group we find bronc, which Webster says is a small half-wild horse, probably descended from stock that escaped from settlers in Mexico.[2] The native here, however, means any unbroken horse. Lariat is from the Spanish la reatá, which means "the rope" (particularly a rawhide rope); lasso (lazo in Spanish) is defined by Barcia as "a snare for game." Though the meanings may have changed somewhat, these Spanish words are clearly the origin of our present terms, lariat and lasso. Mustang is from the Spanish term mesteño, meaning "wild, having no master."[3] We readily recognize the relationship of this idea to our conception of a mustang as a wild horse. Pinto is defined by Webster

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[2]Webster's New International Dictionary.

[3]Craigie and Hulbert, A Dictionary of American English on Historical Principles.

as a Spanish term meaning literally painted or pied.[4] It is not difficult to understand the transfer of meaning from the sense of "painted" to that of mottled or pied in coloring. Remuda is a word that has changed somewhat in meaning since the day it was first adopted by the settlers of the Southwest. Originally it was the name of the several changes of mounts that one cowboy had while he was driving cattle up the trail. While he rode one, the others grazed along with the herd. However, today the expression means any string or band of horses. The need for the original meaning has disappeared, but the word is maintained in a slightly different sense. In the second group, there are the words burro, morral, and corral which maintained both the Spanish meaning and spelling when they were adopted by the early settlers of Kerr County. Burro, meaning donkey, was used in Texas as early as 1842 in the diary of Samuel Maverick.[5] In the last group, those that changed the form but carried over the Spanish meaning are chaps, which is a colloquial abbreviation for the Spanish chaparajos; cinch, from Spanish cincha; and tank, from Spanish tanque, which means a pond or pool in both Spanish and Southwestern English. This term was used in the Austin Papers as early as 1826.[6] Hackamore undoubtedly came from the Spanish jaquima, because both terms mean a rope halter or headstall, which a horse wears during the process of being "broken."

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[4] Webster's New International Dictionary.

[5] Mary Ladd, "A Vocabulary Study of Early Texas English" (M. A. thesis, University of Texas, 1943), p. 29.

[6] Ibid., p. 74.

The second largest group of Spanish words in the Kerr County vocabulary pertains to the topographic conditions. Alamo, which is defined by Webster as a poplar, was given as a synonym for sycamore by one informant. The same informant gave bosque as the word for a mesquite thicket. According to the Dictionary of American English, this word in Spanish means "a clump or grove of trees." Another Spanish term, chapparral, also means a grove or thicket. Here it is applied to a mesquite thicket particularly. Canyon is the prevalent term here for any deeply cut crevice in the surface of the earth. In fact, anything from a gully to a deep valley may be called a canyon. The Spanish term is spelled cañon, but its pronunciation is similar to the anglicized form.

Several names of foods have been borrowed from the Spanish. Pintos and frijoles are both prevalent terms for beans in this area. Pinto, meaning mottled or painted, as previously mentioned with reference to a horse, is also an appropriate designation for the little brown and white speckled bean which makes up a great part of every Mexican's diet. Originally frijol was used to designate a dark red bean, larger than the pinto, but it seems to be synonymous with pinto today. A candy bar is sometimes called a piloncillo, which means literally a little loaf of sugar. The term pilon, which in Spanish means a loaf of sugar, has also undergone a change in meaning, yet the present meaning is logical. Today it means any small gift or bonus which is given with a purchase or when wages are paid. As was the custom a generation or so ago, every merchant gave a little gift, preferably a

bag of candy, to a customer when he paid his bill. I understand that a pilon was also expected from the rancher when he paid off his hands.

As with any group of people, the Mexicans have a word for the scorned or improvident person. The Southwesterner also borrowed that term. An expression which is used by both the Spanish and English speaking people is pelado (pronounced [pi'lau]), meaning a low class or worthless Mexican. This is derived from the past participle of the Spanish word pelar, meaning "to be penniless or a nobody" (colloquially). In conjunction with this term, we might mention the expressions greaser and pepper belly, which are also derisive terms for a low class Mexican. These latter terms, however, are used by the English speaking people when talking about the Mexicans, and not by a Mexican talking about one of his own group.

Aside from the Spanish borrowings, there seem to be relatively few words that are characteristically Southwestern, and these usually have some connection with the cattle industry. The cowboy or cowhand is called a cowpoke or a waddy. The motherless calf is known as a dogie. This usually has reference to the motherless calf in a range herd. The commonly known cattleguard is sometimes referred to as a stock pass in Kerr County. Mott is an expression used to denote a clump of trees on the prairie-like surfaces of the land. It is used particularly with reference to a small grove of elm trees.

The lone word of this group which denotes a weather condition is norther. This term is applied to a "spell of weather" which is initiated by a strong wind out of the north. It is different from a

"cold spell" in that it is the result of a cold, sudden, and rather violent north wind. It is usually of brief duration, but while it is on, "the wind blows through you."

Thus we see that it might be disconcerting to an Easterner who heard a native Kerr Countian say of Mexican cowhands, "The waddies and cowpokes are cinching up the pintos to lasso the dogies as they run out of the chapparral."

CHAPTER VI

WORDS FROM THE EASTERN STATES

Thus far in this study we have traced the Southwestern element in the Kerr County vocabulary, and have analyzed the incidence of words in the various age and occupation groups. The purpose of this chapter is to give the distribution in the Eastern states of the English words which are in use by the Kerr County informants, with a view to determining which areas of the East are most strongly represented linguistically. As a basis for this study we shall use Hans Kurath's A Word Geography of the Eastern United States and The Linguistic Atlas of the United States and Canada.[1]

Kurath divides the Eastern United States--the original English settlements--into three main areas. His definitions of these areas might well be quoted. The first area which he sets off is the North:

> The Northern speech area corresponds to the New England settlement area, together with the Dutch settlement area which lies embedded in it. The southern boundary of this area runs in a westerly direction through northern Pennsylvania. On the East Branch of the Susquehanna (near Scranton) the line turns off in a southeasterly direction and cuts through New Jersey to the Atlantic coast below Sandy Hook.
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> The subareas of the North are (1) Western New England and the New England settlement area west of the Hudson to the Great Lakes, (2) Eastern New England, including the

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[1]Only the New England materials have thus far been published, as the Linguistic Atlas of New England (see Bibliography). For Atlas data that does not appear in Kurath, I am indebted to E. B. Atwood's unpublished maps.

upper Connecticut Valley, and (3) the Hudson Valley, including western Long Island and East Jersey.[2]

Second, Kurath sets off a large area lying between the North and the South, which he designates as the Midland:

> The northern boundary of the Midland area coincides with the southern boundary of the Northern area.... It is more sharply defined in Pennsylvania than in New Jersey, where a complicated settlement history and the old lines of communication between Philadelphia and New York City intersecting the settlement boundary have frayed the word lines.... The southern boundary of the Midland runs along the crest of the Blue Ridge in Virginia. North of the Potomac the line turns east and sweeps in an arc through Baltimore to the Atlantic below Dover in Delaware. In Maryland west of Chesapeake Bay this line is clearly defined. On the Eastern Shore, where Delaware Bay expressions have often spread far southward under Philadelphia influence, the boundary is less sharp.
>
> South of the James River the Midland boundary swerves out into the piedmont and embraces a large section of the North Carolina piedmont. This southern sector of the Midland boundary is less sharply defined than the middle sector in Virginia because Southern expressions have mingled with the old Midland terms in the Blue Ridge south of the James and in the Appalachians to a much greater extent than farther north. Moreover, some Midland features have been carried down the valleys of the Cape Fear and the Yadkin-Peedee to the Atlantic coast. The Midland area extends westward to the Ozarks and beyond. West of Pennsylvania its northern boundary runs through the central part of Ohio, northern Indiana, and central Illinois. The systematic survey of the speech of the Great Lakes Basin and the Ohio Valley, which is being carried out under the direction of A. H. Marckwardt of the University of Michigan, provides the localized material for drawing this line.... The southern boundary of the Midland in Georgia and farther west is as yet unknown. It probably runs somewhat to the north of the cotton lands.[3]

The Midland is further divided into West, North, and South Midland.

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[2]Kurath, A Word Geography of the Eastern United States, p. 12.

[3]Ibid., p. 27.

Third, Kurath sets off another area which he calls the Southern:

> The Southern speech area comprises a greater part of Delamarvia (the southern two-thirds of Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia), Virginia east of the Blue Ridge, the eastern half or more of North Carolina, and all of South Carolina except the Blue Ridge province. Although very little material is now available from Georgia and the Gulf States, it is fairly clear that the Southern speech area extends all the way to East Texas (probably to the valley of the Brazos River). The chief subareas of the South are: (1) the highly diversified Chesapeake Bay area, (2) the relatively unified Virginia Piedmont, and (3) the Carolinas east of the Midland boundary, with several distinct subdivisions.... Speech boundaries within the Southern area are rather more clear-cut than elsewhere in the Eastern States because this area has remained largely agricultural and because its population, derived largely from Colonial stocks, has clung to the soil.[4]

It will be interesting to compare the words of each of these areas with the terms found in the Kerr County glossary. Among the words which Kurath characterizes as typically Northern, we find pail, swill (slop), comforter, johnny cake, whiffletree, evener, angleworm, darning needle, co-boss! (to a cow), and clapboards.[5] Out of this list of words we find only two which were given by any of the informants for this glossary. One person gave clapboards as the term for siding on a house. Three persons used the compound terms milk pail, dinner pail, and lunch pail, but no one gave the term pail alone. It may be observed that all five instances of the use of pail were by the non-German informants. Other terms which Kurath lists as characteris-

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[4]Kurath, op. cit., p. 37.

[5]From E. B. Atwood rather than Kurath.

tic of the Northern speech area exclusive of the Hudson Valley are spider (skillet), fills, or thills (of a buggy), eaves trough, Dutch cheese, and teeter-totter or teeter-board. None of these terms were given by any informant for this study. Also in the inland North, which excludes eastern New England, we find stoop, lobbered milk, and fried cake (doughnut); none of these occur in the Kerr County vocabulary. We may conclude that there is practically no influence from the Northern speech area in the language used by the native of Kerr County.

Among the words which Kurath considers typical of the Midland area we find blinds, skillet, a little piece, sook! (cow call), and quarter till. All of these terms are in use in Kerr County. The expression blinds was given by only one informant, but skillet was given by every one. A little piece was given by five, sook! by seven, and quarter till by five. Midland terms are clearly relatively frequent in this speech community.

Although there are few words that are characteristic of the entire Midland area, there are sub-areas within the Midland which have their own peculiar words. In fact,

> ... the Midland is not a uniform speech area.... Some expressions are used throughout the Midland, others in all the Midland except the Delaware Bay area, some in all of the North Midland (including the Shenandoah Valley and northern West Virginia); others are largely confined to Pennsylvania, to Pennsylvania east of the Alleghenies (including the Shenandoah Valley), or to the Pennsylvania German area and south-central Pennsylvania, and still others to the South Midland.[6]

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[6]Kurath, op. cit., pp. 27-28.

Keeping in mind these facts, let us consider now the words that are distinctive of the North Midland and the South Midland. In the former area we find such words as smearcase, side meat, run (creek), and worm fence. In the study made in Kerr County, all four informants who indicated that they used smearcase were of German descent. This fact would be expected, since the word is of German origin. Side meat and run were not used by any informant, but worm fence was given by two persons.

Among the terms characteristic of the South Midland are French harp,[7] tow sack, fire board (mantel), clabber milk, and milk gap. Of these, all except the last are in use in Kerr County. French harp, tow sack, and clabber have a wide distribution in this section of Texas. The term clabber is used in combination with both milk and cheese. Fire board was given by only one old-fashioned speaker. Midland terms are clearly relatively frequent in Kerr County, with the South Midland tending to predominate.

Words which characterize the Southern speech area (or a major part of it) include low (noise made by a cow), lightwood, turn of wood, co-wench! (cow call), earthworm, press peach, croker sack, and carry you home. Of these terms, we recorded no use whatsoever of lightwood, co-wench!, press peach, croker sack, and turn of wood. However, turn of corn was used by one informant to denote a portion of corn taken to the mill for grinding into meal. Low was given by one person, carry

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[7]From Atwood rather than Kurath.

you home by two, and earthworm by four. Thus we see that Southern (i.e., coastal Southern) expressions are almost as rare as terms from the North.

Among the words which Kurath classifies as characteristic of both the South and the South Midland, we find lightbread, clabber, middlins, (corn) shucks, you-all, pallet, dog irons, firedogs, paling fence, bucket, singletree, comfort, pully bone, corn pone, roasting ears, granny (woman) (midwife), and Christmas gift! (as a greeting). Of the foregoing words, clabber, shucks, pallet, and roasting or roas'n ears, were given by all eight informants. Singletree was given by all the informants except the teen-age girl who has no term for that particular item. Bucket was used by all; some meant a wooden container while others meant one made of metal. Lightbread was given by all except one--the oldest informant. Likewise, you-all was given by all except one. Comfort was used by six of the eight. Dog irons, firedogs, paling fence, corn pone, granny, and Christmas gift! were used by old-fashioned speakers, or were given as expressions formerly used. Only one, middlins, was not found in the Kerr County vocabulary. It seems that the commercial or trade term salt pork is the predominant term for home cured "side meat" in Kerr County.

This brief analysis should help us to make several observations. First, the greatest influence contributed by any single area in the Eastern United States to the Kerr County vocabulary is from what Kurath designates as the Midland speech area--with the South Midland contributing appreciably more than the North Midland. A very large number of

words in the vocabulary of this locality are characteristic of the combined South and South Midland areas. The North has made the least impact upon the Kerr County vocabulary. Likewise, the Coastal South contributes few words to our glossary.

Although, to be sure, a great many words in use in our area are indigenous to the Southwest--as a product of Southwestern cultural conditions--it is striking that the sources of early migration to Kerr County (as outlined in Chapter I) should have left such clear traces in the present-day speech of the locality. The Midlander on arrival in the Southwest may have changed his occupation, his "way of life" or "culture pattern," and even a portion of his vocabulary--but his everyday terms for everyday objects and concepts still provide excellent clues as to his origin.

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by

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APPENDIX

WORK SHEETS FOR VOCABULARY COLLECTION

INSTRUCTIONS:

Record the informant's terms for the words and phrases that are printed in capital letters on the work sheets. Write each word beside or under the item on the work sheet, using the conventional spelling. If the word has no written form that you know of, or if it is given with an unusual pronunciation, use the phonetic alphabet in transcribing it. Try in every case to determine the informant's usage without yourself using the word in question. If you find it necessary to "suggest" the term to the informant, always write "s" or "sug." before the word, thus: "s. Dutch cheese."

Items are arranged topically to help give coherence to the interview. Please add any further words that you think to be of interest; use the back of the sheet or a separate sheet if necessary. If the informant uses a number of interesting cookery terms, ranching or farming terms, etc., record as many as you can whether they are on the work sheets or not.

If the informant uses more than one term for a single item, record all terms used. If one of the terms is regarded by the informant as "older," or "old-fashioned," or "familiar," please indicate this fact. Please give definitions in all cases where variation in meaning is encountered.

NOTE: Words enclosed in parentheses () are suggestions as to the kind of variants to watch for. They are by no means a complete listing of the possibilities.

THE WEATHER

TIME WHEN THE SUN COMES UP (sun-up)

AT SIX IN THE MORNING YESTERDAY, THE SUN (riz, raised, rised, come up)

CLEARING UP (fairing up, fairing off, etc.)

STORM WITH RAIN & THUNDER & LIGHTNING (electrical storm, etc.)

VERY HEAVY RAIN THAT DOESN'T LAST LONG (gulley-washer, goose-drownder, etc)

THE WIND IS NOT BLOWING SO HARD (easing up, laying)

STRONG COLD WIND FROM NORTH (blizzard, norther, wet norther, blue norther, etc.)

LONG PERIOD OF DRY WEATHER (drouth, dry spell)

Other terms:

TOPOGRAPHY

SMALL STREAM; STREAM OFF THE MAIN CHANNEL OF A RIVER (creek, run, branch, brook, bayou, etc. Distinguish)

DRY CREEK-BED (arroyo, etc.)

DEEPLY CUT VALLEY OR GULLY (Canyon, gorge, gulch, etc. Describe)

COVE, BAY, INLET; BACKWATER (resaca, etc. Describe)

LOW GROUND IN A RIVER VALLEY (bottoms, bottom land, etc.)

FLAT GRASSY COUNTRY (prairie, llano, etc.)

HIGH, FLAT LAND (mesa, etc.)

PLACE WHERE MESQUITE GROWS THICK (chaparral)

LAND WHERE SCRUBBY OAK GROWS (shinnery, etc.)

TREE THAT PRODUCES SUGAR AND SYRUP (sugar tree, sugar maple, etc.)

SYCAMORE (buttonwood, buttonball, etc.)

CEMENT ROAD; PAVED ROAD (hard road, hard-surface road, etc.)

MAIN IRRIGATION DITCH (acequia, sakey, sakey ditch, etc.)

ARTIFICIAL POOL OR POND WHERE LIVESTOCK ARE WATERED (tank)

POISONOUS VINE THAT MAKES THE SKIN BREAK OUT (poison vine, etc.)

WASTE LAND (particularly lava-covered) (malpais, badlands, etc.)

PLACE TO LET CARS OR TRAINS PASS THROUGH A FENCE (gap, etc.)

PLACE TO WALK AT SIDE OF STREET

BUNCH OF TREES GROWING IN OPEN COUNTRY (particularly on a hill)

THE HOUSE

ROOM AT FRONT WHERE GUESTS ARE ENTERTAINED (parlor, sitting room, etc.)

FLOOR OF FIREPLACE

SHELF OVER FIREPLACE (mantel, mantelpiece, fireboard, etc.)

TROUGHS TO TAKE WATER OFF ROOF (eaves troughs, spouts, gutters, etc.)

CLOSET FOR CLOTHING

UNFINISHED SPACE AT TOP OF HOUSE (attic, garret, etc.)

PORCH (at front door; at back door; describe) (piazza, veranda, gallery, stoop, etc.)

OVERLAPPING BOARDS ON OUTSIDE OF HOUSE (horizontal) (clapboards, siding, weatherboards)

ROOM FOR STORING DISUSED ARTICLES

MAIN RANCH HOUSE (big house, hacienda, etc.)

SHINGLES OR BOARDS SPLIT FROM A LOG (shakes, clapboards)

Other terms

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

CHEST OF DRAWERS (describe) (dresser, bureau, chiffonier, armoire, etc.)

WINDOW COVERING ON ROLLERS (blinds, curtains)

SMALL ROOM OFF THE KITCHEN TO STORE FOODS AND EQUIPMENT

LONG PIECE OF FURNITURE TO SIT OR LIE ON (lounge, couch, davenport, etc.)

HOUSEHOLD GOODS (particularly worthless stuff) (plunder, etc.)

IRONS TO HOLD LOGS FOR BURNING (dog irons, fire dogs, etc.)

WOODEN VESSEL FOR WATER (bucket, pail)

METAL VESSEL FOR WATER, MILK, etc. (bucket, pail)

METAL CONTAINER FOR CARRYING DINNER OR LUNCH

GARBAGE CONTAINER (for scraps, slop, etc.)

CLOTH FOR DRYING DISHES (tea towel, cup towel, dish towel)

CLOTH USED FOR WASHING FACE OR BATHING (washrag)

HEAVY IRON PAN USED FOR FRYING (skillet, etc.)

DEVICE TO TURN ON WATER (in kitchen or bathroom; outdoors) (tap, spigot, spicket, faucet, hydrant)

LARGE JAR FOR DRINKING WATER (olla, etc.)

CLOTH COVER USED TO COVER A BED PILLOW

PAPER CONTAINER FOR GROCERIES, ETC. (sack, poke, etc.)

INFLAMMABLE OIL; FORMERLY BURNED IN LAMPS (coal oil, lamp oil)

BEDDING SPREAD ON FLOOR (bunk, pallet, shakedown, etc.)

FANCY DAYTIME COVER FOR BED (coverlid, counterpin, counterpane, etc.)

HEAVY BED COVER (tied rather than sewn) (hap, comfort, comforter, comfortable, etc.)

WOOD USED TO START FIRE (pine, lightwood, kindling wood, etc.)

Other terms

TIME; DISTANCE

PART OF THE DAY BEFORE SUPPER TIME (evening, afternoon)

15 MINUTES BEFORE ELEVEN (quarter of, quarter to, quarter till)

A WEEK FROM NEXT SUNDAY; FROM LAST SUNDAY

FOR QUITE A WHILE (spell, etc.)

A LITTLE DISTANCE; A LONG DISTANCE (ways, piece, etc.)

two miles is THE FARTHEST he can go (all the further, etc.)

SOME DISTANCE OFF, BUT IN VIEW (as, his house is over there, over yonder, et

Other terms

THE PREMISES; FARM AND RANCH

WALL MADE OF ROCKS OR STONES (rock wall, rock fence, stone fence, etc.)

FENCE MADE OF WOODEN RAILS (zigzag and other types) Describe.

FENCE MADE OF SLATS STANDING UPRIGHT (paling fence; palings) Describe.

FENCE MADE OF WIRE WITH SPIKES ON IT Describe.

PLACE WHERE COWS ARE ENCLOSED

PLACE WHERE HORSES ARE ENCLOSED (lot, horse lot, corral)

BAG ATTACHED TO HORSE'S HEAD TO FEED HIM (feed bag, nose bag, morral)

ENCLOSURE FOR PIGS OR HOGS (hog pen, hog house, etc.)

ROPE WITH LOOP (for catching animals) (lariat, lasso, reata, etc.)
RAWHIDE ROPE

YARD OR ENCLOSURE ABOUT THE BARN (cow lot, barn lot, etc.)

BAND THAT HOLDS THE SADDLE ON (cinch, to cinch up)

PLACE WHERE CORN IS STORED

FLAT PIECE OF STONE TO SHARPEN KNIVES

ROUND STONE THAT REVOLVES--TO SHARPEN AXES

LEATHER LEGGINS THAT REACH TO THE WAIST--USED FOR RIDING

WOODEN RACK FOR SAWING PLANKS (trestle, sawhorse, sawbuck)

THE AMOUNT OF WOOD YOU CAN CARRY IN BOTH ARMS (turn, armload)

WOODEN DEVICE FOR SAWING LOGS FOR FIREWOOD

WOODEN POLES (of a buggy); HORSE STANDS BETWEEN THEM (shays, fills, thills)

BAR TO WHICH A SINGLE HORSE IS HITCHED (whippletree, whiffletree, singletree)

BAR TO WHICH TWO WHIFFLETREES ARE ATTACHED same for three or four horses (doubletree, etc.)

ROPE DEVICE ON HORSE'S HEAD--USED TO CONTROL A WILD HORSE OR LEAD HIM (hackamore)

KINDS OF SADDLES (stock saddle, muley saddle, etc.)

WASTE FOOD TO BE FED TO PIGS (swill, slop, etc.)

LARGE SACK MADE OF BURLAP (tow sack, feed sack, grass sack, croker sack, gunny sack, bulap sack, etc.)

VARIOUS KINDS OF WORKERS ON A RANCH (cowhand, wrangler, buckaroo, etc. Distinguish)

OUTER WORKING GARMENT (overhalls, levis, etc.)

SMALL BOAT USED ON A RIVER (bateau, pirogue, etc.)

OUTDOOR TOILET

Other terms

ANIMALS

BLACK AND WHITE STRIPED ANIMAL THAT MAKES A BAD ODOR (skunk, polecat)

SMALL SQUIRREL-LIKE ANIMAL THAT RUNS ALONG THE GROUND (ground squirrel, chipmunk)

DRY-LAND ANIMAL THAT HOPS--SUPPOSED TO CAUSE WARTS (toadfrog, etc.)

CALL TO HORSES TO STOP THEM (whoa, ho, etc.)

CALL TO HORSES TO MAKE THEM GO (get up, come up, giddap, etc.)

CALL TO HORSES IN THE PASTURE (cope, quope; whistling, calling by name)

CALL TO COWS IN PASTURE (to get them home) (co boss, sook, sook cow, etc.)

CALL TO COW WHILE MILKING (to make her stand) (so so boss, saw, histe, etc.)

CALL TO CALVES (sook calfie, etc.)

CALL TO CHICKENS

CALL TO TURKEYS

GENTLE NOISE MADE BY HORSE (at feeding time) (get the verb)

NOISE MADE BY COW (at feeding or milking time) (Low, moo, etc.) (verb)

BAND OR HERD OF SADDLE HORSES (remuda, caballada, caviard, cavvy, etc.)

INDIAN PONY (pinto, paint, etc.)

HORSE ON THE LEFT SIDE IN PLOWING OR HAULING (near horse, nigh horse, etc.)

UNBROKEN HORSE (bronc, mustang, etc. Define)

TO TRY TO THROW THE RIDER (buck, pitch)

MOTHERLESS CALF (maverick, dogie. Distinguish)

MALE HORSE (euphemisms and nicknames)

MALE COW (euphemisms and nicknames)

SMALL VARIETY OF JACKASS (donkey, burro)

WORTHLESS DOG (cur, scrub, fice, fists, etc.)

BIRD THAT PECKS HOLES IN TREES

DRAGON FLY (mosquito hawk, snake doctor, etc.)

HOPPING INSECT THAT DESTROYS CROPS (grasshopper, hoppergrass)

INSECTS THAT BUILD MUD NESTS AND DON'T STING (mud daubers, dirt daubers, etc.)

BIRD THAT HOOTS AT NIGHT

FLYING BUG THAT GLOWS AT NIGHT (firefly, lightning bug, etc.)

WORM USED FOR FISH BAIT (rainworm, mudworm, eaceworm, earthworm, angleworm, angledog, fish worm, fishing worm, etc.)

SMALL INSECT THAT BORES INTO THE SKIN (makes red, itchy spots) (chigger, redbug)

SMALL FLAT LIZARD WITH HORNS ON HEAD AND BACK (horny toad, horned frog, etc.)

Other terms

CROPS; FOODS

FRESH CORN SERVED ON THE COB (green corn, sweet corn, roasting ears, etc.)

BEANS COOKED AND SERVED IN THE PODS (green beans, snap beans, snaps. etc.)

LARGE FLAT BEANS (butter beans, lima beans) (Describe)

MEXICAN BROWN BEANS (pinto beans, frijoles)

PEACH WHOSE MEAT STICKS TO SEED

PEACH WHOSE MEAT DOESN'T STICK TO SEED

HARD CENTER OF PEACH (seed, stone, pit)

HARD CENTER OF CHERRY (seed, stone, pit)

SMALL CAKE (brioche, etc.)

FOOD EATEN BETWEEN MEALS (piece, bite, snack, lunch, etc.)

ROUND, FLAT SHEET OF PECAN CANDY (praline, etc.)

SWEET LIQUID SERVED WITH PUDDING (dip, dope, etc.)

HOMEMADE CHEESE MADE OUT OF CURD (Dutch cheese, pot cheese, sour milk cheese, clabber cheese, smearcase, etc.)

MILK THAT HAS SOURED AND THICKENED (clabber, bonnyclabber, bonnyclapper, lobbered milk, loppered milk, thick milk, curds, cruds, sour milk, clabber(ed) milk, etc.)

MILK THAT IS BEGINNING TO SOUR (is blinky, etc.)

SALT PORK; HOME-CURED BACON

FLAT CAKE (WHEAT FLOUR) COOKED ON A GRIDDLE (pancake, battercake, etc.)

PRESSED MEAT LOAF MADE OF HOGS' JOWLS (head cheese, souse, etc.)

SOFT DRINK (pop, soda pop, cold drink, sody water, etc.)

DOUGHNUT, CRULLER (describe) (fried cake, fat cake, etc.)

BREAD MADE OF CORNMEAL (various kinds)

WHEAT BREAD MADE OF WHITE FLOUR (light bread)

STALKS OF WHEAT TIED TOGETHER (bundle, sheaf)

CHICKEN BONE THAT CHILDREN PULL APART (lucky bone, pully bone, pull bone, pulling bone, wish bone, etc.)

OUTER LEAFY COVER OF EARS OF CORN (husks, shucks)

SOFT, MUSHY CORN BREAD SERVED WITH A SPOON

THICK SOUP, USUALLY CONTAINING OKRA

FOOD MADE FROM HOGS' INTESTINES

Other terms

THE FAMILY

He RESEMBLES his father in appearance; in other traits (takes after, etc.)

Her RELATIVES (relations, folks, kinfolks, etc.)

Her PARENTS (folks, etc.)

She has BROUGHT UP three children (raised, reared, etc.)

GRANDMOTHER (usual term and terms of affection)

GRANDFATHER (usual term and terms of affection)

MOTHER (usual term and terms of affection)

FATHER (usual term and terms of affection)

MY WIFE (also familiar and facetious terms) (the Missus, etc.)

ILLEGITIMATE CHILD

WOMAN WHO HELPS AT CHILDBIRTH (granny woman, partera)

Other terms

SOCIAL LIFE

STRING OF BEADS (strand, pair)

He is COURTING her (wooing, etc.)

KISSING (bussing)

NOISY BURLESQUE SERENADE AFTER A WEDDING (describe) (shivaree, belling, skimmelton, callathump, etc.)

HARMONICA (mouth organ, harp, mouth harp, French harp)

BOYS' WEAPON MADE OF RUBBER STRIPS ON A FORKED STICK (sling, sling-shot, beanie, nigger-shooter, etc.)

GREETING EARLY ON CHRISTMAS MORNING (Christmas gift)

BONUS OR GIFT GIVEN WITH A PURCHASE OR WHEN BILL IS PAID (pilon, lagniappe)

May I TAKE you home (on foot; in a vehicle) (carry)

STORE WHERE ALL KINDS OF CHEAP THINGS ARE SOLD (racket store, etc.)

THE LOCAL PREACHER; AN UNPROFESSIONAL, PART-TIME, LAY PREACHER (parson, dominie, the reverend, Brother so-and-so, jackleg preacher, yard-ax, chair-backer, Bible banger, etc.)

YOU (plural) (you-all, you-uns, youse, you folks, etc.)

HELLO! (familiar term) (hi, hey, etc.)

Other terms

PERSONS; PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

STINGY; A STINGY PERSON (tight, chinchy, etc.; tightwad, pennypincher, etc.)

She's QUITE LIVELY (an old person) (right spry, right peart, etc.)

SLOVENLY; DRESSED IN FUNNY LOOKING CLOTHES OR IN BAD TASTE (slouchy, tacky, etc.)

EASILY OFFENDED (touchy, etc.)

ANGRY (Mad, riled, het up, etc.)

TIRED, EXHAUSTED (worn out, tuckered out, bushed, etc.)

LAZY, UNAMBITIOUS (no-account, ornery, onery, etc.)

WOMAN WHOSE HUSBAND IS DEAD (widow woman, etc.)

ITALIAN (nicknames)

IRISHMAN (nicknames)

JEW (nicknames)

ACADIAN FRENCH (nicknames)

MEXICAN (nicknames)

NEGRO (neutral, polite, derogatory, and nicknames)

A POOR WHITE; A RUSTIC; ONE FROM THE BACK COUNTRY (yokel, hick, hayseed, sharecropper, hillbilly, redneck, etc. Distinguish)

BACK PART OF LEGS; WHAT YOU SQUAT DOWN ON (hunkers)

EXPRESSIONS OF MILD DISGUST (darn, durn, dad-gum, etc.)

VARIOUS ACTIVITIES; VERB FORMS AND SYNTACTICAL PECULIARITIES

I WANT TO GET OFF (I want off)

I'LL WAIT FOR YOU (on you)

LEAVE VERY FAST (light a shuck, etc.)

She CLEANS UP the house (tidies up, reds up, etc.)

WASH OFF (DISHES) IN CLEAR WATER (rinse, rench)

He DRAGGED a log (drug)

BALANCED BOARD FOR CHILDREN TO PLAY ON

IT WASN'T ME

GAME IN WHICH HORSESHOES ARE PITCHED; RINGS, ETC.

A GOOD DEAL (right much, right smart, etc.)

JAIL (jocular terms) (calaboose, hoosegow, etc.)

He THREW a STONE at a dog (throwed, flung, chunked; a rock, etc.)

SWITCH (for punishing children)

TO WHIP SOUNDLY

HE OUGHTN'T TO GO (hadn't ought, etc.)

He walked DIAGONALLY across a field (catty-cornered, antigodlin, etc.)

HE DIVED IN (dove, div, etc.)

The baby MOVES ON ALL FOURS across the floor (creeps, crawls)

He CLIMBED up a tree (clum, clim, etc.)

I DREAMED all night (dreampt, dremp)

I WOKE UP (waked up, wakened (up), etc.)

He MIGHT have HELPED me (mought; holp, holped)

He SAW me do it (seen, see, seed)

TO CARRY SOMETHING HEAVY, AS A BUNDLE OR SACK OF POTATOES (pack, tote)

He SWEATED hard (sweat)

I MIGHT BE ABLE to do it (might could, maybe could)

PRETTY GOOD (right, quite, tolerable, etc.)

The DEVIL; AN IMAGINARY BAD MAN THAT "GETS" LITTLE CHILDREN (booger man, etc.)

GHOST, GOBLIN (spook, ha'nt, sperit, booger, etc.)

Other terms

NAME OF INFORMANT

AGE EDUCATION

BIRTHPLACE

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN PRESENT COMMUNITY

BIRTHPLACE AND HOME OF PARENTS

NAME AND LOCATION OF COMMUNITY IN WHICH INFORMANT LIVES (including name of county)

TYPE OF COMMUNITY

FURTHER CHARACTERIZATION OF INFORMANT

ADDENDA TO WORK SHEETS

The wind is BLOWING HARDER (rising, breezing up, etc.)

LARGE PIECE OF FURNITURE USED FOR HANGING UP CLOTHES (wardrobe, clothes press)

PIECE OF KITCHEN FURNITURE FOR KEEPING FOODS, etc. (safe, cupboard)

LARGE LOG AT BACK OF FIRE (backlog, back stick, back chunk, etc.)

30 MINUTES AFTER SEVEN (half-past, half-after)

PERIOD OF TWO WEEKS (a fortnight)

IMPLEMENT FOR LEVELLING OFF NEWLY PLOWED GROUND (harrow, drag)

PLOT OF GROUND WHERE VEGETABLES ARE RAISED (garden patch, kitchen garden, etc.)

PLOT OF GROUND WHERE COTTON IS RAISED (cotton patch, etc.)

AMOUNT OF CORN CARRIED IN A WAGON (turn, etc.)

TURTLE, TERRAPIN (Are they distinguished?) (cooter, gopher, turkle, etc.)

SETTING HEN (clook, glook, etc.)

CROP THAT GROWS AFTER FIRST CROP IS CUT (second crop, second cutting, rowen, aftergrass, aftermath, volunteer crop, etc.)

PEANUTS (goobers, ground peas, etc.)

TOWN WHERE COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS LOCATED (county seat, county site, etc.)